

لکھنؤ میں لکھنؤ

Buying The Times overseas  
Australia \$20.00; Belgium 20.00; Canada \$20.00; Denmark 20.00; France 20.00; Germany 20.00; Greece 20.00; Hong Kong 20.00; India 20.00; Italy 20.00; Japan 20.00; Korea 20.00; Luxembourg 20.00; Malaysia 20.00; Mexico 20.00; Netherlands 20.00; New Zealand 20.00; Norway 20.00; Portugal 20.00; Singapore 20.00; South Africa 20.00; Spain 20.00; Sweden 20.00; Switzerland 20.00; Taiwan 20.00; Thailand 20.00; USA \$20.00

# THE TIMES



W H SMITH  
BICENTENARY  
16-page  
special report

No 64,237

FRIDAY JANUARY 24 1992

40p

## Progressive Democrats set resignation timetable for embattled Irish prime minister

### Haughey ready to quit after coalition threat

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

CHARLES Haughey is expected to resign as Irish prime minister next week after his junior coalition partners threatened to bring down the government if he remained at his post.

Mr Haughey was said to have bowed to the inevitable last night after renewed allegations about his part in a phone-tapping scandal a decade ago proved to be one of many in his troubled premiership. He is expected to quit after the budget next Wednesday.

The resignation timetable is believed to have been worked out during a day of negotiations between leaders of Fianna Fail and the Progressive Democrats, the six-strong party that has kept Mr Haughey's party in power since 1989. The PDs later issued a statement saying they would withdraw their support unless Fianna Fail took "the necessary step to restore the authority and effectiveness of the government in the immediate aftermath of budget day".

The alternative was an unwanted general election, two years early. "If the necessary

step isn't taken, then that's it," one Progressive Democrat source said. "We have been in a number of similar occasions like this in the past and we haven't been found wanting yet."

While the government press secretary did not confirm Mr Haughey's intention to quit, other senior sources within Fianna Fail said he would announce his resignation at a meeting of the parliamentary party next Thursday. That meeting is likely to take the first steps towards choosing a new party leader, and Mr Haughey will remain prime minister until a successor is chosen. He is expected to go within a week of the budget.

Mr Haughey, who has led Fianna Fail for 11 years and been Taoiseach since 1987, was said to be determined that his continued leadership should not cause an election. He had hoped to continue in office until the party conference in March and to visit Canada before resigning. But his ministers were said to have told him this would not satisfy the PDs.

Mr Haughey had been called Houdini for his ability to survive even the most serious threats to his position, and only last November he survived a vote within Fianna Fail to oust him. But what will almost certainly prove the fatal blow was dealt on Tuesday when Sean Doherty, a former justice minister in Mr Haughey's 1982 administration, claimed for the first time that he had broken the mould in Irish politics but it has only six seats in the Dail, having performed particularly badly at the last general election in 1989.

Some political observers believe they could face electoral oblivion if they are widely perceived as being responsible for an undignified end to Mr Haughey's career.

conversations. Mr Haughey's line-by-line refusal of Mr Doherty's claims at a press conference on Wednesday appears to have made no difference to the PDs resolve.

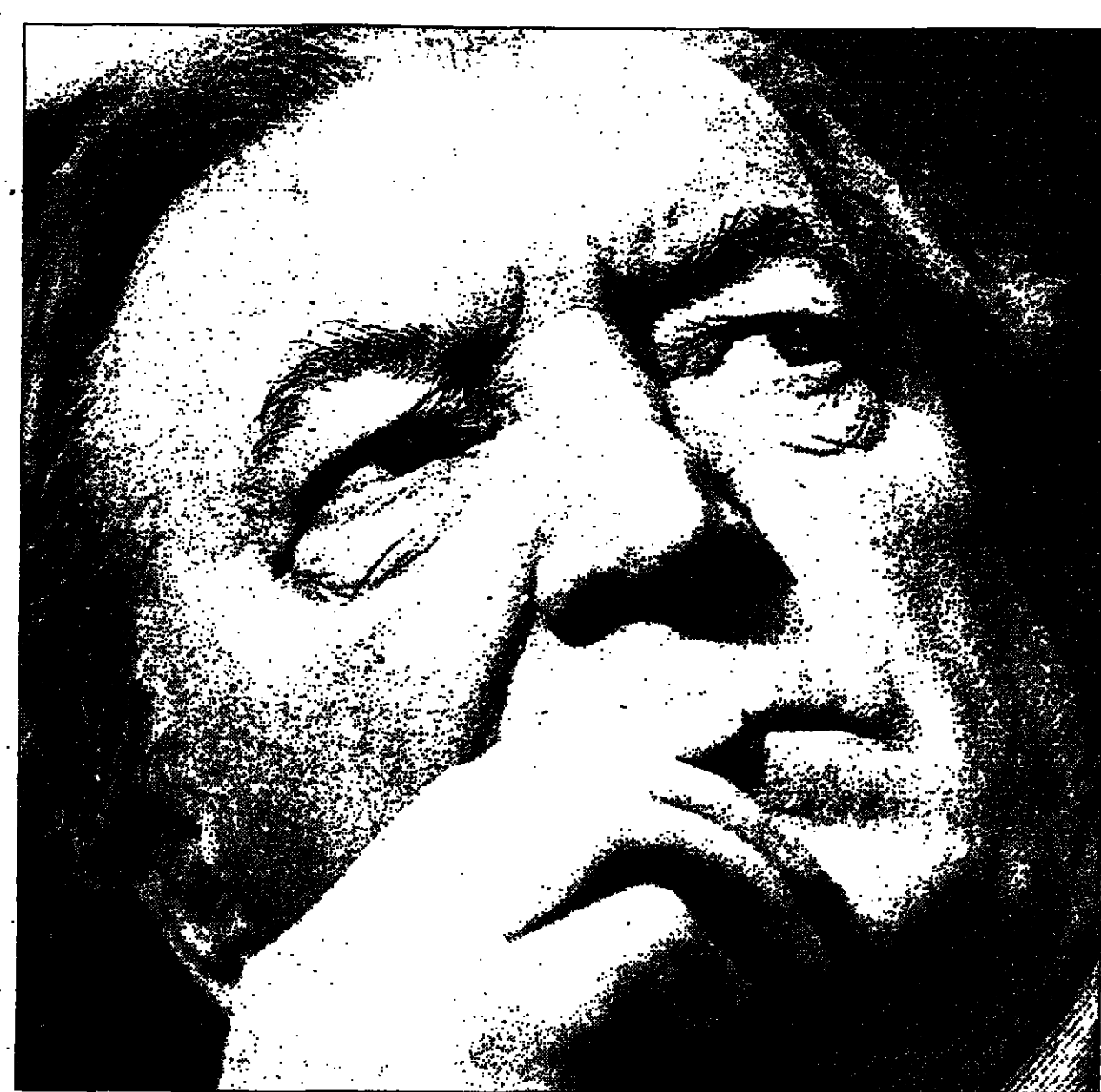
A party source said last night it was not a question of whether they believed Mr Haughey or Mr Doherty, each of whom accuses the other of lying. The government and country could not put up with any further crises — and the cause of those crises was patently Mr Haughey. The instability was distracting the government from running the country and tackling the serious problems of unemployment and economic decline.

The PDs moderated earlier demands that Mr Haughey should resign within 48 hours and gave him one more week because they did not want this crisis to jeopardise their hard-won gains in the budget, which includes their own proposals for tax cuts and tax reform, aimed at creating jobs.

The ultimatum facing Mr Haughey will anger his supporters on the backbench and in the country at large. Many in Fianna Fail resent ever going into coalition with the PDs, and will see Mr Haughey's end as an example of political backstabbing.

Party loyalists have never concealed their distaste for Des O'Malley, the Progressive Democrat leader, who with a small band of colleagues walked out of Fianna Fail in the early 1980s. The new party was supposed to break the mould in Irish politics but it has only six seats in the Dail, having performed particularly badly at the last general election in 1989.

Some political observers believe they could face electoral oblivion if they are widely perceived as being responsible for an undignified end to Mr Haughey's career.



Charles Haughey: resolved to relinquish leadership rather than force a general election two years early

### Yarrow gets £400m order for warships

The government announced a £400-million order for three more Type 23 frigates for the Royal Navy yesterday.

The contract was awarded to Yarrow Shipbuilders on the Clyde, providing a job boost for Scotland. There had been intense rivalry for the contract between four shipbuilding yards. Page 20

### Mutiny fails in Zaire

Troops loyal to President Mobutu of Zaire put down a mutiny yesterday, leaving two dead. Rebel soldiers had seized the radio station in Kinshasa, broadcasting calls for the resignation of President Mobutu and the prime minister. Page 11

### Lonrho move

Lonrho, the pan-African conglomerate headed by Tiny Rowland, has cut its dividends from 11p to 5p a share after reporting profits well below what analysts had expected. The move means Mr Rowland will lose about £5.5 million in dividends. Page 21

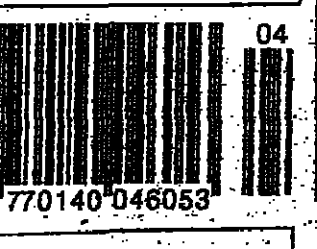
### Briton jailed

A British oil executive has been jailed for 24 years for bludgeoning his wife to death and dismembering her body in the bedroom of their Spanish villa. Page 3

### Botham waits

Ian Botham, who has joined the England cricket team in New Zealand, said that he would not expect to be given a place immediately in a winning side. Page 34, 36

INDEX	
Arts	15, 20
Births, marriages	18, 19
Deaths	18, 19
Crosswords	19, 22
Law Report	19, 22
Letters	17, 27, 32
Obituaries	18
Parliament	7
Science	12
Sport	32-36
TV & radio	21
Weather	22



### Britain faces new battle over EC bill

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

THE government appears to be heading for a bruising row with Brussels over the size of Britain's payments to the European Community budget. That would reopen a struggle between Margaret Thatcher and her European partners that disrupted the EC in the 1980s.

A senior official of the EC Commission preparing the Community's next five-year budget hinted yesterday that as EC spending grows, richer states may want to renegotiate the deal by which Britain receives a rebate of about £2 billion a year on its contributions to Brussels. The official suggested that since stronger economies such as those of Germany, France, Denmark and the Netherlands would face much larger bills for expanded EC activities agreed by the Maastricht summit meet-



Humphreys: more used to a grander stage

### De Lorean suit breaks cabinet secrecy

The government is overruling its 30-year rule in pursuit of damages. Philip Robinson reports

CABINET papers of the past decade relating to discussions on the De Lorean car plant have been released to Arthur Andersen, the accountants, who are defendants in a New York legal action which is being brought by the British government.

The release of the papers of discussions within the Thatcher cabinet has apparently been agreed by John Major, although it breaks the normal conventions of the 30-year rule. Mrs Thatcher is being called to give sworn evidence of her role in the affairs of the De Lorean car company, which collapsed in 1982 after a British government investment of £84 million.

Her evidence will form part of the defence case of Arthur Andersen, accountants to the sports car makers, who are being sued in New York by British for damages which could reach almost \$1 billion. The former prime minister will be among an estimated 30 politicians and government officials to be interviewed either in New York, or on video in London by Arthur Andersen's New York lawyers, Breed, Abbott Morgan. They confirmed last night that Mrs Thatcher will be interviewed as a witness.

It is understood that Mr Major has instructed all his officials to co-operate.

Andersen's lawyers want to explore with Mrs Thatcher why doubts over the De Lorean project, raised by the

Continued on page 20, col 2

### Bush is to offer cuts in multiple warhead arms

By MARTIN FLETCHER AND MICHAEL EVANS

PRESIDENT Bush is to propose another dramatic reduction in strategic missiles next week, aiming his latest arms control initiative at land-based systems with multiple warheads. The proposals will be made during his State of the Union speech to Congress next Tuesday.

Mr Bush, who announced unilateral nuclear weapons cuts in September, is also considering for the first time reductions in America's submarine-launched ballistic missiles, the strongest of the US triad of nuclear systems.

The latest nuclear arms cutting package, which some experts predict could include another 20 per cent reduction in strategic weapons, will be discussed with Boris Yeltsin, the Russian president, when he visits New York for his first summit meeting with Mr Bush at the end of next week.

Last month a US military advisory group recommended that America could safely cut its inventory of strategic warheads to around 5,000, with greater emphasis on submarine-launched systems. A reduction to this level is unlikely to affect Britain's plans to purchase Trident D5 missiles from the US. An arsenal of 5,000 warheads would still be more than the total number of warheads held by Britain, France and China put together.

Any suggestion from Mr Bush, however, that submarine-launched missiles should have fewer warheads could force the British to review its plans to arm each Trident missile with up to eight warheads.

Last month's US report, prepared by the joint strategic target planning staff advisory group for General Lee Butler, commander-in-chief of US strategic forces and director of nuclear targeting, suggested that submarine-launched missiles should carry no more than six warheads.

The safety of former Soviet nuclear weapons has become a matter of international concern following the break-up of the Soviet Union, despite firm agreements between the four "nuclear" members of the 11-republic Commonwealth on a single strategic command and control system for

### £8m home loan rescue

By RACHEL KELLY, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

THE first mortgage rescue scheme is expected to cost £8 million and save 100 homes, the Nationwide Building Society announced yesterday. It is part of a wider plan to keep 3,000 borrowers in serious arrears in their homes, to which Britain's second largest society has committed £150 million.

Three London housing associations, the London and Quadrant Housing Trust, the Notting Hill Housing Trust and the Newham Housing Trust, are working with the Nationwide on the first scheme, converting mortgages into rents. The associations are expected to buy the first homes within a month.

Unlike mortgages, borrowers can get a full cash-out refinance. Continued on page 20, col 6

### Opera singer gives lessons to Welsh rugby fans

By TIM JONES

TIME was when the Welsh rugby team walked on the stage and the rendering by the fans of the anthem *Hen Wlad fy Nhadau* (*Land of My Fathers*) sent shudders down the spine of any team unfortunate enough to face the red dragons in the national stadium at Cardiff.

The massed choir singing the old song, which alludes to bards, blood and heroes, was deemed so intimidating that on their last outing to Cardiff the England team manager arranged for the anthem to be played on the team coach as it crossed the border to lessen the psychological shock of the real thing.

Since then, the fortunes of the team have declined and the dismal results appear to have affected the vocal cords of the supporters. To combat this mass laryngitis, the Welsh Rugby Union has called upon Beverley Humphreys, a professional opera singer, to raise the standard of the singing. Before the next game at the stadium, against France tomorrow week, Ms Humphreys, a soprano, will stand in the middle of the pitch to lead the fans in the old war cry.

Ms Humphreys said the appearance will take her a long way from her beginnings with the Welsh National Opera company where she has been more used to performing on a grander stage to an audience which is not expected to sing for its supper. One problem is that with the language in decline, fewer people know the words. Even Tony Copsey, the Welsh rock who has "Made in England" tattooed on his buttock, had to learn the words phonetically. Well, he was born in Essex.

Ms Humphreys said: "We hope everyone will join in for the anthem, though we might get out of beat. Rugby and music are very important to the people of Wales and I hope my contribution will help the team to victory."

Leading article, page 15

NEXT WEEK  
THE TIMES  
CHANGES SHAPE  
LIFE & TIMES

A new colour section, Life & Times, will be published daily with The Times from Monday. Life & Times will expand the paper's coverage of arts, entertainment and books as well as topical features. It will also report weekly on education, health, science, law, media, property and motoring

TOMORROW'S TIMES

SPLIT TIP



"If you take marriage seriously you have to be divorced." Fay Weldon talks to Valerie Grove in the Saturday Review

PARK METER



Moves to change the royal parks have already met fierce resistance. Weekend Times sniffs the air

## PROPERTY

# CNT

## CHOICE PROPERTY!

For the best selection of industrial and commercial property and land under one roof, there's only one place to go. The Commission for the New Towns is the One-stop Property Shop with £2 billion worth of property assets for sale or lease in 18 desirable New Town locations throughout England. If you are an investor, developer or industrial or commercial business, then contact the specialists now. Simply complete the coupon and return it to: Commission for the New Towns, PO Box 176, London SW15 1BU, or dial 100 and ask for Freephone CNT Property Centre.

Which location(s) are you interested in?  
Basildon, Bracknell, Central Lancashire, Corby, Crawley, Harlow, Hatfield, Hemel Hempstead, Northampton, Peterborough, Redditch, Runcorn, Skelmersdale, Stevenage, Telford, Warrington, Washington, Welwyn Garden City (Circle your choices please)

What type of property are you interested in?  
☐ Industrial/commercial units ☐ Industrial premises ☐ Office ☐ Residential ☐ Investment properties

Sq. ft./acres required \_\_\_\_\_

When are you considering moving or investing?  
☐ Within 6 months ☐ 6 to 12 months or specify \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Company \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Dial 100 and ask for Freephone CNT Property Centre



# Haughey's mantle could pass to the unwilling or unready

BERTIE Ahern, finance minister, has had a glittering career and may well, albeit unwillingly, accept the leadership of his party this year.

Mr Ahern, aged 40, from a working class Dublin background, has already held two big cabinet posts, labour and finance, but has consistently said that he does not wish to take the top job for some years yet. He is an accountant and industrial relations expert who enjoys great popularity with the all important grassroots of Fianna Fáil, among whom his personable and self-effacing style has made him many friends.

He was first elected to the Dáil in 1977 and was in the whips' office before becoming party spokesman on youth and then Chief Whip. He took the labour post in 1987, where he established a formidable reputation for ending public sector strikes. He was one of two ministers chosen by Mr Haughey to conduct delicate negotiations with the Progressive Democrats when Fianna Fáil entered its first coalition in 1989.

Mr Ahern is on the liberal wing of the party and Fianna Fáil under his leadership would sit more easily in coalition with either the Labour party or the PDs than under Mr Haughey or the other main candidates. Mr Ahern

**Edward Gorman profiles the four most likely candidates to take on the leadership of the party should Charles Haughey resign next week**

has so far stood resolutely by Mr Haughey and it was his decision to back him last autumn that was instrumental in ensuring that Albert Reynolds did not succeed in his attempt to have Mr Haughey removed from the leadership. An Achilles' heel is his personal life. He left his wife for another woman and he is known to be concerned that the conservative electorate might balk at the idea of a separated man as their prime minister.

Mrs O'Rourke, aged 54, currently minister for health, would be the first woman leader of Fianna Fáil and the first woman Taoiseach if she succeeds Mr Haughey. For that reason alone, some in the party would find it difficult to accept her.

Mrs O'Rourke, from Athlone, in the Irish midlands, comes with a purebred Fianna Fáil pedigree. Her father was a Dáil deputy for the party and her elder



Party favourites: the likely successors, from left to right, Albert Reynolds, Ray MacSharry, Bertie Ahern and Mary O'Rourke

brother, Brian Lenihan, has been one of its leading figures for 30 years. His dismissal by Mr Haughey in December 1990, over allegations that he lied on television during his campaign for president, brought out fierce family loyalty in Mrs O'Rourke and strained her relationship with Mr Haughey.

Mrs O'Rourke began her career as a secondary school teacher before moving into politics in 1981, when she was elected to the senate. She won her first Dáil seat a year later.

She became education minister in 1987, a position she retained until the autumn

reshuffle, when she moved to health. She was regarded as particularly effective at education, where she published a far-reaching Green Paper and launched an Aids education programme.

Mrs O'Rourke is believed not to be opposed to divorce or more freely available contraception and regards herself as a liberal Roman Catholic. She is ambitious, forceful and a candidate around whom much of the party could unite.

Her main weakness is her lack of experience, especially of the economy and foreign affairs, but she makes no secret of her ambition to lead

her country and believes she is capable of it.

Ray MacSharry, EC commissioner for agricultural development since 1989, is regarded as the man Mr Haughey would most like to succeed him, but he may not have the chance.

Mr MacSharry was one of the so-called gang of five who nominated Mr Haughey to the Fianna Fáil leadership in 1979, and has been loyal ever since. Mr Haughey is believed to have wanted to lead his party into another general election, allowing Mr MacSharry to return from Europe in triumph, regain his seat in the Dáil and take

over the leadership. A sudden resignation by the incumbent thus appears to rule him out, since he is not due to return to Dublin until December.

Mr MacSharry, aged 53, a teetotaler who is married with six children, is regarded as an old-style, generally conservative Fianna Fáiler. His skill as a negotiator in Europe, where he has handled tough and exhausting negotiations on the Common Agricultural Policy and trade reform, have enhanced his profile at home. He has benefited from being away during the latest scandals and leadership disputes.

He is a farmer and former road haulier from Sligo in the North-West, and was elected to the Dáil in 1969. He was deputy prime minister and finance minister in Mr Haughey's 1982 government and finance minister again between 1987 and 1988. He is a self-made man who is regarded as a somewhat cold individual lacking in charisma, but his experience and ability are not in doubt.

Albert Reynolds, former finance minister, aged 56, is the only one of the contenders to have openly attempted to remove Mr Haughey from office, and this may count against him in the long run. Mr Reynolds, from Longford

in the midlands, backed a no-confidence motion in Mr Haughey last November and lost his cabinet job in the process. The move backfired when Haughey loyalists rallied to defeat the motion by 55 votes to 22.

There have also been rumours lately that, either directly or indirectly, Sean Doherty, the former justice minister who is alleging Mr Haughey's direct involvement in the telephone tapping scandal, might be working for Mr Reynolds. If this perception persists, it could damage Mr Reynolds.

Nevertheless, the millionaire pet food entrepreneur and former manager of a string of ballrooms, who is married with two sons and five daughters, must still be the strongest candidate. A pragmatist with a reputation for getting things done, he took his first Dáil seat in 1977 and became posts and telegraphs minister two years later.

Since then he has held the transport, energy, industry and commerce and finance portfolios, making him probably the most experienced candidate, though he has said little on foreign affairs and Northern Ireland.

Ready to quit, page 1  
Diary, page 14

## Change in poll tax law likely to plug default loopholes

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE home secretary is expected to announce today that the government will change the law to allow computerised poll tax records to be used as evidence that defaulters have not paid.

Kenneth Baker's announcement was pre-empted yesterday by Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, who said he was changing the law to prevent poll tax defaulters escaping prosecution if their debts were more than two years old.

After announcing on television on Wednesday night that legislation was imminent, Mr Heseltine has taken control of measures to prevent the collapse of the community charge system in England and Wales.

More than 10,000 cases against non-payers have come to a halt in the courts after rulings that computer records were not admissible as evidence of non-payment.

All councils use computers to administer the tax and if the rulings are upheld by the High Court, local authority leaders say that the poll tax will become unenforceable.

The delays caused by the rulings have raised the spectre of thousands of cases being lost because of a rule that councils have only two years to begin court action against defaulters.

Many of the delayed cases relate to poll tax bills issued in April 1990 and risked being struck out under the two-year rule if the issue had not been resolved by the end of March.

Mr Heseltine said he would use his powers to change the rules by issuing regulations within the next few days increasing the time limit to six years, the same period allowed for councils to collect rate arrears. "We are determined that authorities should be able to enforce against all defaulters," he said. "There will be no amnesty for non-payers."

The task for Mr Baker in framing measures to make computer records admissible is more formidable. Government lawyers have said that a simple change in the law to admit computer records as evidence in poll tax cases would risk invalidating seven million liability orders already granted by the courts.

Attempts to overcome the problem by backdating the legislation are fraught with problems because of the rule that legislation cannot be retrospective.

Technical legal difficulties are not expected to prevent Mr Baker from announcing later today his intention to change the law.

The scale of poll tax collection problems in London was underlined yesterday when the Labour controlled Association of London Authorities published figures showing that one in three Londoners had been summonsed for non-payment.

The association said that 1.8 million summonses had been issued and 1.2 million liability orders obtained by London boroughs since the poll tax was introduced in April 1990.

At a meeting in London the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, which represents London and the major cities, called for a government advertising campaign to persuade more people to pay the poll tax.

Rodney Brooke, the association's secretary, warned that non-payment would push up bills by between £20 and £40 a head from April. In some places a surcharge of more than £100 would be added to cover non-collection losses.

that legislation cannot be retrospective.

Technical legal difficulties are not expected to prevent Mr Baker from announcing later today his intention to change the law.

The scale of poll tax collection problems in London was underlined yesterday when the Labour controlled Association of London Authorities published figures showing that one in three Londoners had been summonsed for non-payment.

The association said that 1.8 million summonses had been issued and 1.2 million liability orders obtained by London boroughs since the poll tax was introduced in April 1990.

At a meeting in London the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, which represents London and the major cities, called for a government advertising campaign to persuade more people to pay the poll tax.

Rodney Brooke, the association's secretary, warned that non-payment would push up bills by between £20 and £40 a head from April. In some places a surcharge of more than £100 would be added to cover non-collection losses.

that legislation cannot be retrospective.

Technical legal difficulties are not expected to prevent Mr Baker from announcing later today his intention to change the law.

The scale of poll tax collection problems in London was underlined yesterday when the Labour controlled Association of London Authorities published figures showing that one in three Londoners had been summonsed for non-payment.

The association said that 1.8 million summonses had been issued and 1.2 million liability orders obtained by London boroughs since the poll tax was introduced in April 1990.

At a meeting in London the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, which represents London and the major cities, called for a government advertising campaign to persuade more people to pay the poll tax.

Rodney Brooke, the association's secretary, warned that non-payment would push up bills by between £20 and £40 a head from April. In some places a surcharge of more than £100 would be added to cover non-collection losses.

that legislation cannot be retrospective.

Technical legal difficulties are not expected to prevent Mr Baker from announcing later today his intention to change the law.

The scale of poll tax collection problems in London was underlined yesterday when the Labour controlled Association of London Authorities published figures showing that one in three Londoners had been summonsed for non-payment.

The association said that 1.8 million summonses had been issued and 1.2 million liability orders obtained by London boroughs since the poll tax was introduced in April 1990.

At a meeting in London the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, which represents London and the major cities, called for a government advertising campaign to persuade more people to pay the poll tax.

Rodney Brooke, the association's secretary, warned that non-payment would push up bills by between £20 and £40 a head from April. In some places a surcharge of more than £100 would be added to cover non-collection losses.

that legislation cannot be retrospective.

Technical legal difficulties are not expected to prevent Mr Baker from announcing later today his intention to change the law.



Strength from above: Dr David Hope, the Bishop of London, trying out fitness equipment yesterday after opening Cabeline, a £500,000 youth drugs aid project in the East End of London

## Protest greets Twyford Down dig

By MICHAEL MCCARTHY, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

PROTESTS from local residents greeted the start of construction work yesterday on the Twyford Down section of the M3 in Hampshire, one of the European Environmental Commission. Signor Carlo Ripa di Meana has asked Britain to halt.

Builders starting up a coupe south of Winchester marked the transport department's determination to ignore Signor Ripa di Meana's request and the pleas of campaigners against the scheme. It will destroy one of England's most heavily protected landscapes, carving a 400ft gap in the chalk through Twyford Down and creating a high embankment across the Ichen valley.

Signor Ripa di Meana's request for work to stop while the cases were considered was made personally last October to the transport secretary, Malcolm Rifkind.

David Croker, a Tory member of Winchester city council and chairman of the Twyford Down Association, who joined protesters at the site yesterday, said: "The government is giving two fingers to Europe. This case is likely to come before the European court, and the transport department is showing its contempt. Europe is more concerned than our own government about the destruction of Twyford Down and Ichen Valley. People just don't realise just how bad this route is going to be."

Anne Bailey, a Liberal Democrat member of Hampshire county council, said: "Every inch of this route is a disaster."

## Major attacks snobbery against vocational study

By NICHOLAS WOOD AND JILL SHERMAN

THE prime minister yesterday highlighted his vision of a classless society by giving personal backing to measures aimed at breaking down barriers between academic and vocational education and by denouncing "old fashioned prejudices and snobberies" against manual work.

John Major threw his weight behind plans to achieve a ten-fold increase in the number of people gaining work-based qualifications and countered Labour attacks on the government's record by maintaining that ministers were creating the most effective and flexible system of vocational education in the world.

His intervention came as Michael Howard, the employment secretary, heightened the electioneering atmosphere by saying that Labour's policies to introduce a minimum wage and a jobs tax would put 2.25 million people out of work and have an "appalling effect" on Britain's economic performance.

Labour derided the figures and said that the Tories were in a shambles over their training programme.

Mr Howard said that Labour's policy for a minimum wage alone would cost two million jobs. When Labour's proposals for a jobs tax and its social action were thrown in the total would rise to 2.25 million, Mr Howard said.

Tony Blair, shadow employment secretary, dismissed Mr Howard's figures and accused the government of doubling unemployment.

"The Conservatives have scored an own goal this morning in trying to claim Labour proposals for investment in training would lose jobs," he said. Labour would "hang round the government's neck from now until polling day" the issue of lengthening queue queues, Mr Blair said.

Recalling his personal involvement in the launch of last summer's white paper *Education and Training for*

the 21st Century, Mr Major said the government wanted to give greater priority to the 16-19 age group. It also wanted to sweep aside cultural attitudes relegating those pursuing vocational courses to the status of second class citizens.

Speaking in London to a meeting of the National Council for Vocational Qualifications, Mr Major outlined a four-point strategy for giving practical courses the same status as academic studies and for eroding distinctions between the two. "In this country we have always failed to give status to the practical as compared with the academic and the professional careers," the prime minister said. "All that is changing. Must change."

Mr Blair countered with new figures showing that two thirds of those on employment training leave their programme without a qualification.

Parliament, page 6

## Viz bails out soccer club

By JOE JOSEPH

Viz, the comic which put the art in "Johnny Farnham" and other bawdy characters as it became one of Britain's biggest selling magazines, has put up the cash to save a football team from bankruptcy.

Blyth Spartans, a struggling non-league team that flamed briefly with glory by battling to the fifth round of the FA Cup in 1978, will be sponsored by Viz for the next 18 months in return for wearing the Viz logo across their football shirts.

So far Viz's links with soccer have been confined to Billy the Fish, the super-goalie star of one of its cartoon strips. But Viz's move into football sponsorship — it is believed to be stumping up £10,000 — could prompt other publications to enter this field. It is possible that Billy

the Fish and other Viz stars such as Sid the Sexist, Roger Melli The Man on the Telly, and the sex-mad Fat Slags will grace some of the Spartans' home games.

Similarly, The Times might consider sponsoring a team that would allow Bernard Levin and Matthew Parris to make guest appearances.

Graham Dury, one of the four editors of the comic, which is based in Newcastle upon Tyne, said yesterday: "The Viz logo was our second choice. We really wanted a slogan that said 'Drink Beer, Smoke Tabs'. I reckon that would look dead good on a football kit. I have never actually seen Blyth Spartans play, but I am sure they are very good. No club in the football league could have as proud a reputation as Billy the Fish's team, Fulchester United, but

I think Blyth Spartans run a close second. We heard they were strapped for cash and thought we could help, but we expect free tickets in return."

Blyth Spartans was formed in 1899 and now play in the Northern League. Starved of cash, the club wrote to several local businesses. Viz came up with an offer.

John Brown, who handles the publishing of Viz from London, said: "I can't wait to get up to see Blyth Spartans. We wanted to sponsor a football team and we were looking for the right one. It had to be someone that fitted the bill — a club with a name that sounded right."

Third division Fulham had also approached Viz for sponsorship. However, Brown said Blyth Spartans were considered the perfect choice.

## Coroner's officer jailed for theft

A coroner's officer was jailed for four months yesterday for stealing stamps from the home of a dead woman (Peter Victor writes).

However, Southwark crown court found Roy Bellamy, coroner's officer for St Pancras, north London, not guilty of taking more than £400 from the house, and of stealing a signed copy of a book from the home of Kenneth Williams, the actor.

Anthony Leonard, for the prosecution, said that Bellamy, of Chalk Farm, north-west London, went to the home of Anne Domelow, aged 80, in Hampstead in August 1990 to seek clues to her next of kin and took stamps.

Bellamy denied taking the stamps and money and said that he had replaced Mr Williams' book at the actor's home in Regent's Park. However, police found identical stamps at Bellamy's home.

## Boy died after eating contest

A boy aged six died after choking during a school doughnut-eating contest. Graham Merritt collapsed when he and a friend raced to see who could eat one of the doughnuts the faster.

He was given first aid and taken from Wickbourne County infants' school at Littlehampton, West Sussex, to Worthing Hospital. He was transferred to the Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital in Brighton, where he was put on a life support machine which doctors switched off on Wednesday. A post mortem examination will be held.

## Tottenham riot police bailed

Detective Chief Superintendent Graham Melvin, who led the investigation into the murder of Police Constable Keith Blakelock in the 1985 Tottenham riot, was given unconditional bail yesterday on charges of perjury and conspiracy to pervert the course of justice.

Det Chief Supt Melvin, aged 50, appeared in Bow Street magistrates' court, London, with retired Detective Inspector Maxwell Dingle, who is charged with conspiracy to pervert the course of justice. He was also bailed.

## In Vogue

Alexandra Shulman is to be the new editor of Vogue, Conde Nast's monthly fashion magazine. Ms Shulman, aged 34, moves from the men's magazine GQ to take over from Elizabeth Tilberis, who has gone to America to edit Harper's Bazaar. Anna Harvey, now deputy editor of Tatler, will be her deputy. Michael VerMeulen will move up from deputy editor to run GQ.

## Explorer quits

The explorer John Blashford-Snell is standing down as leader of Operation Raleigh, the organisation he founded to send young people on overseas adventures. Colonel Blashford-Snell, aged 55, has also left the Royal Engineers after 37 years.



unready

hold in like

## Dogged detective turned Spanish missing person case into 24-year sentence for murder

# Husband jailed for bludgeoning wife

By KERRY GILL

THE suspicions and persistence of a Scottish detective led yesterday to a British oil executive being jailed for 24 years for bludgeoning his wife to death and dismembering her body in the bedroom of their Spanish villa.

Stuart Hutchinson, aged 47, was sentenced at Malaga's palace of justice after a two-day trial during which he denied the murder, claiming that his wife Alice had walked out of their home and disappeared.

Mrs Hutchinson, aged 38, was an amateur opera singer and the couple's £188,000 villa near Marbella was called Bel Canto, "beautiful song". It was there that Hutchinson, a tax exile, drained her body of blood and cut it up with a tennis saw, burning some remains and scattering others on dumps and building sites.

The case would have remained a missing person file but for the determination of Detective Superintendent Alex Den of Aberdeen police, and his knowledge of an obscure clause in Scottish criminal legislation which gave him the basis for conducting an investigation abroad.

Mrs Hutchinson's father, Jim Davidson, could not believe that his daughter would vanish without good reason. He told a policeman in his home district of Aberdeen that she was missing. Grampian police, through Interpol, asked the Spanish authorities to open an investigation.

There was no reply and the matter was routinely passed to the CID, where it came to the notice of Det Supt Den, then an inspector.

He knew that he had jurisdiction to investigate a suspected killing of a person by a British national abroad, under Section 6 (1) of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act of 1975. That effectively allows for a British subject, once extradited, to be punished in a Scottish court for culpable homicide or murder committed abroad.

Det Supt Den discovered that Mr and Mrs Hutchinson could be an explosive couple. Hutchinson was known once to have assaulted his wife, a fact which could enable the officer to establish the malice that would support suspicion of culpable homicide or murder.

He also learnt that Hutchinson had given conflicting stories about his wife's disappearance in February 1989.

He told his cousin, Audrey Sutherland, that Mrs Hutchinson, a soprano, had gone to the Seville opera house. Later he said that she might have gone to an audition at Covent Garden.

There were other suspicious circumstances. Why had Mrs Hutchinson not contacted her two sons by a previous marriage, spoken to her parents, or sent mother's day flowers as usual? Mrs Hutchinson's dog was left at the villa, and so was her jewellery, passport and clothing, which were found by neighbours.

The Crown Office refused to grant extradition papers, but Det Supt Den and Detective Sergeant Gordon Thomson flew to Spain to exchange information. They met inspectors Alfredo Tarjuelo and Jesus Pena, and cemented a relationship with a bottle of Scotch whisky. The Spanish police, too, became convinced that Mrs Hutchinson had been murdered.

Throughout a police interview Hutchinson, from Hartlepool, Cleveland, and who ran a removal business in Spain, remained calm. An interview with a family maid provided a breakthrough: she had found traces of blood in the couple's bedroom. Spanish police drove to Bel Canto in the early hours and woke Hutchinson as he lay in bed with a Dutch model.

Although the bedroom had been freshly painted there were still signs of blood extending six feet up the walls. Eventually Hutchinson confessed to a row with his wife which ended in his battering her to death with a baton kept for burglars. He described how he dragged an unused door into the bedroom on which he lay his wife's bloody body. As his daughter by his first marriage, then aged 14, slept in another room, he spent the night cutting up the body. He poured the blood into a drain beneath the bedroom wash-basin.

Exhausted, Hutchinson snatched a few hours' sleep before taking a shower and driving his daughter, Kadinka, to school. On his return, he burnt pieces of his wife's body in old paint tins and a fire grate before dumping other remains. The court also sentenced Hutchinson to a further three months and a fine of £500 for dismembering the body.

He had been arrested two months after his wife vanished. He repeated his confession to a Spanish examining judge and agreed to renege the murder but later retracted the confession.

Mr Davidson said last night: "We have been through three years of hell but finally justice has been done." He and his wife were visited by Det Supt Den, who said: "We are very pleased at the outcome."



Stuart and Alice Hutchinson on their wedding day: he dismembered her body at their villa

He also learnt that Hutchinson had given conflicting stories about his wife's disappearance in February 1989. He told his cousin, Audrey Sutherland, that Mrs Hutchinson, a soprano, had gone to the Seville opera house. Later he said that she might have gone to an audition at Covent Garden.

There were other suspicious circumstances. Why had Mrs Hutchinson not contacted her two sons by a previous marriage, spoken to her parents, or sent mother's day flowers as usual? Mrs Hutchinson's dog was left at the villa, and so was her jewellery, passport and clothing, which were found by neighbours.

The Crown Office refused to grant extradition papers, but Det Supt Den and Detective Sergeant Gordon Thomson flew to Spain to exchange information. They met inspectors Alfredo Tarjuelo and Jesus Pena, and cemented a relationship with a bottle of Scotch whisky. The Spanish police, too, became convinced that Mrs Hutchinson had been murdered.

Throughout a police interview Hutchinson, from Hartlepool, Cleveland, and who ran a removal business in Spain, remained calm. An interview with a family maid provided a breakthrough: she had found traces of blood in the couple's bedroom. Spanish police drove to Bel Canto in the early hours and woke Hutchinson as he lay in bed with a Dutch model.

Although the bedroom had been freshly painted there were still signs of blood extending six feet up the walls. Eventually Hutchinson confessed to a row with his wife which ended in his battering her to death with a baton kept for burglars. He described how he dragged an unused door into the bedroom on which he lay his wife's bloody body. As his daughter by his first marriage, then aged 14, slept in another room, he spent the night cutting up the body. He poured the blood into a drain beneath the bedroom wash-basin.

Exhausted, Hutchinson snatched a few hours' sleep before taking a shower and driving his daughter, Kadinka, to school. On his return, he burnt pieces of his wife's body in old paint tins and a fire grate before dumping other remains. The court also sentenced Hutchinson to a further three months and a fine of £500 for dismembering the body.

He had been arrested two months after his wife vanished. He repeated his confession to a Spanish examining judge and agreed to renege the murder but later retracted the confession.

Mr Davidson said last night: "We have been through three years of hell but finally justice has been done." He and his wife were visited by Det Supt Den, who said: "We are very pleased at the outcome."

He also learnt that Hutchinson had given conflicting stories about his wife's disappearance in February 1989. He told his cousin, Audrey Sutherland, that Mrs Hutchinson, a soprano, had gone to the Seville opera house. Later he said that she might have gone to an audition at Covent Garden.

There were other suspicious circumstances. Why had Mrs Hutchinson not contacted her two sons by a previous marriage, spoken to her parents, or sent mother's day flowers as usual? Mrs Hutchinson's dog was left at the villa, and so was her jewellery, passport and clothing, which were found by neighbours.

The Crown Office refused to grant extradition papers, but Det Supt Den and Detective Sergeant Gordon Thomson flew to Spain to exchange information. They met inspectors Alfredo Tarjuelo and Jesus Pena, and cemented a relationship with a bottle of Scotch whisky. The Spanish police, too, became convinced that Mrs Hutchinson had been murdered.

Throughout a police interview Hutchinson, from Hartlepool, Cleveland, and who ran a removal business in Spain, remained calm. An interview with a family maid provided a breakthrough: she had found traces of blood in the couple's bedroom. Spanish police drove to Bel Canto in the early hours and woke Hutchinson as he lay in bed with a Dutch model.

Although the bedroom had been freshly painted there were still signs of blood extending six feet up the walls. Eventually Hutchinson confessed to a row with his wife which ended in his battering her to death with a baton kept for burglars. He described how he dragged an unused door into the bedroom on which he lay his wife's bloody body. As his daughter by his first marriage, then aged 14, slept in another room, he spent the night cutting up the body. He poured the blood into a drain beneath the bedroom wash-basin.

Exhausted, Hutchinson snatched a few hours' sleep before taking a shower and driving his daughter, Kadinka, to school. On his return, he burnt pieces of his wife's body in old paint tins and a fire grate before dumping other remains. The court also sentenced Hutchinson to a further three months and a fine of £500 for dismembering the body.

He had been arrested two months after his wife vanished. He repeated his confession to a Spanish examining judge and agreed to renege the murder but later retracted the confession.

Mr Davidson said last night: "We have been through three years of hell but finally justice has been done." He and his wife were visited by Det Supt Den, who said: "We are very pleased at the outcome."

He also learnt that Hutchinson had given conflicting stories about his wife's disappearance in February 1989. He told his cousin, Audrey Sutherland, that Mrs Hutchinson, a soprano, had gone to the Seville opera house. Later he said that she might have gone to an audition at Covent Garden.

There were other suspicious circumstances. Why had Mrs Hutchinson not contacted her two sons by a previous marriage, spoken to her parents, or sent mother's day flowers as usual? Mrs Hutchinson's dog was left at the villa, and so was her jewellery, passport and clothing, which were found by neighbours.

The Crown Office refused to grant extradition papers, but Det Supt Den and Detective Sergeant Gordon Thomson flew to Spain to exchange information. They met inspectors Alfredo Tarjuelo and Jesus Pena, and cemented a relationship with a bottle of Scotch whisky. The Spanish police, too, became convinced that Mrs Hutchinson had been murdered.

Throughout a police interview Hutchinson, from Hartlepool, Cleveland, and who ran a removal business in Spain, remained calm. An interview with a family maid provided a breakthrough: she had found traces of blood in the couple's bedroom. Spanish police drove to Bel Canto in the early hours and woke Hutchinson as he lay in bed with a Dutch model.

Although the bedroom had been freshly painted there were still signs of blood extending six feet up the walls. Eventually Hutchinson confessed to a row with his wife which ended in his battering her to death with a baton kept for burglars. He described how he dragged an unused door into the bedroom on which he lay his wife's bloody body. As his daughter by his first marriage, then aged 14, slept in another room, he spent the night cutting up the body. He poured the blood into a drain beneath the bedroom wash-basin.

Exhausted, Hutchinson snatched a few hours' sleep before taking a shower and driving his daughter, Kadinka, to school. On his return, he burnt pieces of his wife's body in old paint tins and a fire grate before dumping other remains. The court also sentenced Hutchinson to a further three months and a fine of £500 for dismembering the body.

He had been arrested two months after his wife vanished. He repeated his confession to a Spanish examining judge and agreed to renege the murder but later retracted the confession.

Mr Davidson said last night: "We have been through three years of hell but finally justice has been done." He and his wife were visited by Det Supt Den, who said: "We are very pleased at the outcome."

He also learnt that Hutchinson had given conflicting stories about his wife's disappearance in February 1989. He told his cousin, Audrey Sutherland, that Mrs Hutchinson, a soprano, had gone to the Seville opera house. Later he said that she might have gone to an audition at Covent Garden.

There were other suspicious circumstances. Why had Mrs Hutchinson not contacted her two sons by a previous marriage, spoken to her parents, or sent mother's day flowers as usual? Mrs Hutchinson's dog was left at the villa, and so was her jewellery, passport and clothing, which were found by neighbours.

The Crown Office refused to grant extradition papers, but Det Supt Den and Detective Sergeant Gordon Thomson flew to Spain to exchange information. They met inspectors Alfredo Tarjuelo and Jesus Pena, and cemented a relationship with a bottle of Scotch whisky. The Spanish police, too, became convinced that Mrs Hutchinson had been murdered.

Throughout a police interview Hutchinson, from Hartlepool, Cleveland, and who ran a removal business in Spain, remained calm. An interview with a family maid provided a breakthrough: she had found traces of blood in the couple's bedroom. Spanish police drove to Bel Canto in the early hours and woke Hutchinson as he lay in bed with a Dutch model.

Although the bedroom had been freshly painted there were still signs of blood extending six feet up the walls. Eventually Hutchinson confessed to a row with his wife which ended in his battering her to death with a baton kept for burglars. He described how he dragged an unused door into the bedroom on which he lay his wife's bloody body. As his daughter by his first marriage, then aged 14, slept in another room, he spent the night cutting up the body. He poured the blood into a drain beneath the bedroom wash-basin.

Exhausted, Hutchinson snatched a few hours' sleep before taking a shower and driving his daughter, Kadinka, to school. On his return, he burnt pieces of his wife's body in old paint tins and a fire grate before dumping other remains. The court also sentenced Hutchinson to a further three months and a fine of £500 for dismembering the body.

He had been arrested two months after his wife vanished. He repeated his confession to a Spanish examining judge and agreed to renege the murder but later retracted the confession.

Mr Davidson said last night: "We have been through three years of hell but finally justice has been done." He and his wife were visited by Det Supt Den, who said: "We are very pleased at the outcome."

He also learnt that Hutchinson had given conflicting stories about his wife's disappearance in February 1989. He told his cousin, Audrey Sutherland, that Mrs Hutchinson, a soprano, had gone to the Seville opera house. Later he said that she might have gone to an audition at Covent Garden.

There were other suspicious circumstances. Why had Mrs Hutchinson not contacted her two sons by a previous marriage, spoken to her parents, or sent mother's day flowers as usual? Mrs Hutchinson's dog was left at the villa, and so was her jewellery, passport and clothing, which were found by neighbours.

The Crown Office refused to grant extradition papers, but Det Supt Den and Detective Sergeant Gordon Thomson flew to Spain to exchange information. They met inspectors Alfredo Tarjuelo and Jesus Pena, and cemented a relationship with a bottle of Scotch whisky. The Spanish police, too, became convinced that Mrs Hutchinson had been murdered.

Throughout a police interview Hutchinson, from Hartlepool, Cleveland, and who ran a removal business in Spain, remained calm. An interview with a family maid provided a breakthrough: she had found traces of blood in the couple's bedroom. Spanish police drove to Bel Canto in the early hours and woke Hutchinson as he lay in bed with a Dutch model.

Although the bedroom had been freshly painted there were still signs of blood extending six feet up the walls. Eventually Hutchinson confessed to a row with his wife which ended in his battering her to death with a baton kept for burglars. He described how he dragged an unused door into the bedroom on which he lay his wife's bloody body. As his daughter by his first marriage, then aged 14, slept in another room, he spent the night cutting up the body. He poured the blood into a drain beneath the bedroom wash-basin.

Exhausted, Hutchinson snatched a few hours' sleep before taking a shower and driving his daughter, Kadinka, to school. On his return, he burnt pieces of his wife's body in old paint tins and a fire grate before dumping other remains. The court also sentenced Hutchinson to a further three months and a fine of £500 for dismembering the body.

He had been arrested two months after his wife vanished. He repeated his confession to a Spanish examining judge and agreed to renege the murder but later retracted the confession.

Mr Davidson said last night: "We have been through three years of hell but finally justice has been done." He and his wife were visited by Det Supt Den, who said: "We are very pleased at the outcome."

## Midlands police call new enquiry

By CRAIG SETON

A NEW investigation is being carried out into allegations of criminal conduct involving detectives from the West Midlands force, it was disclosed yesterday.

Detective Chief Superintendent David Baker, of Leicestershire, has been called in by the West Midlands force to investigate the allegations, which concern officers from D division, based in north Birmingham. His enquiry is being supervised by the Police Complaints Authority.

The allegations follow an unconnected undercover surveillance operation by West Midlands police that allegedly revealed a suspicious relationship between two detectives and a suspected criminal. They are not connected to the two-year investigation by West Yorkshire police into the former West Midlands serious crime squad, which was disbanded in August 1989 amid claims that officers had fabricated confessions.

Superintendent Ray Starkey, of West Midlands, confirmed yesterday that a new investigation was under way, but no other details were given and it has not been disclosed whether any detectives have been suspended. It was understood yesterday that the enquiry could involve allegations against more than two officers.

Karamjit Singh, an officer with the complaints authority, is supervising the investigation and is expected to meet Det Chief Supt Baker in Birmingham today to discuss the scope of the enquiry. It comes less than three months after the PCA released a critical report on the investigation into the serious crime squad, which concluded that the unit had not been subject to proper management control.

Mr Justice Kennedy ruled in the High Court yesterday that a preliminary report on the serious crime squad by Donald Shaw, an assistant chief constable of West Yorkshire, was confidential and must not be made public. The West Midlands police authority and Ronald Hadfield, chief constable, were granted an injunction preventing Walsall borough council from publishing the document and three others.

## Fist fight gave man Aids virus

By THOMSON PRENTICE  
MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

A FIGHT at a wedding reception resulted in one man infecting another with the Aids virus, according to doctors reporting in *The Lancet* today. The incident shows that the virus can be transmitted by blood contact during physical violence.

Both men — an intruder and an invited guest — bled profusely from face injuries sustained in the "vigorous fist fight", and the guest was admitted to hospital ten days later with nausea, diarrhoea and a rash. He was treated for a viral infection and discharged two weeks later.

Doctors learnt that the intruder was HIV-positive. He has since died. Last November, more than two years after the fight, the guest was found also to have HIV when he went to give blood. He had been married for 17 years and there was no evidence that he might have become infected through homosexual contact, drug abuse or contact with prostitutes.

Peter Morgan-Capner, consultant virologist at the Royal Preston hospital, Lancashire, and doctors from Guy's hospital, London, conclude that the man was infected during the fight. "This is the only case we know of in Britain in which HIV was transmitted in this way," Dr Morgan-Capner said yesterday. "It clearly demonstrates that the virus can be contracted during a fight in which there is bloodshed. Although this must be extraordinarily rare, the general spread of infection suggests it will occur more often in the future."

He added that the case showed that the blood transfusion service's screening system was effective. Apart from heterosexual intercourse, blood-to-blood transmission is the most important means of HIV spread worldwide.

## Study shows cancer link among nuclear workers

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

OCCUPATIONAL exposure to radiation can cause cancer, the largest ever study of nuclear workers has shown. A clear link has been established between deaths from leukaemia and low doses of radiation, with risks rising steadily as dose increases.

The study, by the National Radiological Protection Board, has also shown a link between radiation dose and the death rate from all cancers, although evidence is far less clear than for leukaemia. The board's figures suggest that the limits on radiation

exposure set by the International Commission on Radiological Protection are too high by a factor of about two. Dr Roger Clarke, director of the NRPB, said yesterday that it was too soon to draw this conclusion, because the data were not yet comprehensive enough to be certain of the result. The range of potential error was too wide to conclude that the commission was wrong, he said.

Critics of the nuclear industry have seized on the figures. Friends of the Earth accused the NRPB of "gambling with

radiation workers' lives" and said that it had chosen to give the nuclear industry the benefit of the doubt. Greenpeace called for the closure of the nuclear industry.

The study, published today in the *British Medical Journal*, is based on the National Registry for Radiation Workers, established by the NRPB in 1976. The registry records the exposure of workers from British Nuclear Fuels, the Atomic Weapons Establishment at Aldermaston, the Ministry of Defence, Nuclear Electric and the Atomic Energy Authority, and traces causes of death from sources including the NHS central register.

This is the first analysis made using the register and covers 95,000 individuals of whom 6,660 had died by the end of the study period. In general, the study finds that death rates among radiation workers are lower than for the population as a whole. This was not unexpected, because to get a job workers have to attain a certain standard of health.

To eliminate that effect, the study examined trends in cancer deaths within the sample, comparing them with radiation exposure. A statistically significant association was found between death rates from all leukaemias (excluding chronic lymphatic leukaemia) and radiation dose, showing that the odds against this association arising by chance were greater than 20 to one.

Maryn Day, a solicitor acting for various radiation workers from Sellafield and their children who are seeking compensation from British Nuclear Fuels, said: "How many workers and their children have to die before the industry wakes up to the fact that radiation is far more dangerous than they have ever been prepared to accept?"

## Forgotten play is given an encore

By SIMON TAIT  
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

A FORGOTTEN play by a leading Shakespearean actor has been rediscovered and will be given its first performance for more than 300 years.

A *Woman is a Weathercock* is one of two plays known to have been written by Nathan Field, but it has not been performed since 1667. The play is to be performed next month at the Pentameters Theatre in Hampstead.

Field, born in 1587, was the son of a parson and ran away — or may have been kidnapped — to be an actor when he was 13. He became one of the leading portrayers of female roles in an age when there were no actresses and is reputed to have played Desdemona at the Globe Theatre, London. He is named as a principal actor in the first folio of Shakespeare's works of 1623.

His writing has been ignored, however, and in the early 19th century *A Woman is a Weathercock* was attributed to Sheridan. It is a roistering comedy whose theme is how affections change, written when Field was 22 and performed before James I in the winter of 1609-10.

It will be directed by Graham Watts, who was researching the life of Field at Dulwich College last year when Jan Piggott, the college archivist, showed him a copy of the play which was in a bundle of Victorian books bought from a dealer.



Field: leading portrayer of women's roles

Arts, page 12

## When a woman's age is no secret

By JOHN YOUNG

A FORMER policewoman found herself in trouble with the law yesterday for refusing to disclose her age to a male officer 21 years her junior.

Clare Harrison, who served for five years with the Durham force in the 1950s, was stopped by PC Karl Horowitz in Stockton-on-Tees on October 10 for not wearing a seat belt while driving her car.

Yesterday she told Teesside magistrates' court that she was 55 but that she had refused to disclose the fact to PC Horowitz. "I said that I was in the interesting age of some-



Harrison: "Between 25 and death" where between 25 and death," she said. "I found his manner extremely of-

fensive and high-handed. I had committed a motoring offence and not a felony. I cannot believe that women are being raped in the streets and I am being brought here for an offence of refusing to give my date of birth."

Peter Kilgour, for the prosecution, said that Mrs Harrison was not carrying a driving licence and that PC Horowitz had wanted to know her date of birth to check if she was entitled to drive. She had replied: "It must be the way they train you these days."

Mrs Harrison, of Whitton, Stockton, who owns four fashion and video shops, was stopped after

taking one of her 14 cats to a veterinary surgery.

She said yesterday: "I have always defended the police to the hilt, because they have an extremely difficult job to do. But I don't think that this sort of thing fosters good relations with the public."

After pleading guilty to failing to state her date of birth to a police officer under section 164 of the Road Traffic Act, Mrs Harrison was fined £5 with £12 costs.

Mrs Harrison suffered another blow yesterday. When she left the court she found a £25 fixed penalty ticket on her car for illegal parking.

## Birdspotter raised IRA alert

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A NATURALIST yesterday described how he came across Nesson Quinnivan, one of the IRA suspects who escaped from Brixton prison last year, posing as a birdwatcher close to a Royal Marine training ground in Devon a few months before his arrest.

Trevor Bartlett told a jury at the Central Criminal Court that he saw Quinnivan and a second Irishman three times on Bickton Common, Devon, in June 1990. His suspicions grew as the men were either in the wrong place to spot birds or without their equipment. He said that he saw the men focusing their binoculars on the Royal Marine training ground near by. He raised the alarm and later identified Quinnivan after his arrest in October 1990.

Mr Bartlett was giving evidence on the second day of the trial of William McKane, aged 24, from northwest London, who is accused on three counts, with Quinnivan and Pearce McAuley, the second escapee from Brixton. Mr McKane denies conspiracy to murder Sir Charles Tibbitts and others; conspiracy to cause explosions and possession of firearms.

The trial continues today.

He had been arrested two months after his wife vanished. He repeated his confession to a Spanish examining judge and agreed to renege the murder but later retracted the confession.

Mr Davidson said last night: "We have been through three years of hell but finally justice has been done." He and his wife were visited by Det Supt Den, who said: "We are very pleased at the outcome."

He also learnt that Hutchinson had given conflicting stories about his wife's disappearance in February 1989. He told his cousin, Audrey Sutherland, that Mrs Hutchinson, a soprano, had gone to the Seville opera house. Later he said that she might have gone to an audition at Covent Garden.

There were other suspicious circumstances. Why had Mrs Hutchinson not contacted her two sons by a previous marriage, spoken to her parents, or sent mother's day flowers as usual? Mrs Hutchinson's dog was left at the villa, and so was her jewellery, passport and clothing, which were found by neighbours.

The Crown Office refused to grant extradition papers, but Det Supt Den and Detective Sergeant Gordon Thomson flew to Spain to exchange information. They met inspectors Alfredo Tarjuelo and Jesus Pena, and cemented a relationship with a bottle of Scotch whisky. The Spanish police, too, became convinced that Mrs Hutchinson had been murdered.

Throughout a police interview Hutchinson, from Hartlepool, Cleveland, and who ran a removal business in Spain, remained calm. An interview with a family maid provided a breakthrough: she had found traces of blood in the couple's bedroom. Spanish police drove to Bel Canto in the early hours and woke Hutchinson as he lay in bed with a Dutch model.

Although the bedroom had been freshly painted there were still signs of blood extending six feet up the walls. Eventually Hutchinson confessed to a row with his wife which ended in his battering her to death with a baton kept for burglars. He described how he dragged an unused door into the bedroom on which he lay his wife's bloody body. As his daughter by his first marriage, then aged 14, slept in another room, he spent the night cutting up the body. He poured the blood into a drain beneath the bedroom wash-basin.

Exhausted, Hutchinson snatched a few hours' sleep before taking a shower and driving his daughter, Kadinka, to school. On his return, he burnt pieces of his wife's body in old paint tins and a fire grate before dumping other remains. The court also sentenced Hutchinson to a further three months and a fine of £500 for dismembering the body.

He had been arrested two months after his wife vanished. He repeated his confession to a Spanish examining judge and agreed to renege the murder but later retracted the confession.

Mr Davidson said last night: "We have been through three years of hell but finally justice has been done." He and his wife were visited by Det Supt Den, who said: "We are very pleased at the outcome."

He also learnt that Hutchinson had given conflicting stories about his wife's disappearance in February 1989. He told his cousin, Audrey Sutherland, that Mrs Hutchinson, a soprano, had gone to the Seville opera house. Later he said that she might have gone to an audition at Covent Garden.

There were other suspicious circumstances. Why had Mrs Hutchinson not contacted her two sons by a previous marriage, spoken to her parents, or sent mother's day flowers as usual? Mrs Hutchinson's dog was left at the villa, and so was her jewellery, passport and clothing, which were found by neighbours.

The Crown Office refused to grant extradition papers, but Det Supt Den and Detective Sergeant Gordon Thomson flew to Spain to exchange information. They met inspectors Alfredo Tarjuelo and Jesus Pena, and cemented a relationship with a bottle of Scotch whisky. The Spanish police, too, became convinced that Mrs Hutchinson had been murdered.

Throughout a police interview Hutchinson, from Hartlepool, Cleveland, and who ran a removal business in Spain, remained calm. An interview with a family maid provided a breakthrough: she had found traces of blood in the couple's bedroom. Spanish police drove to Bel Canto in the early hours and woke Hutchinson as he lay in bed with a Dutch model.

Although the bedroom had been freshly painted there were still signs of blood extending six feet up the walls. Eventually Hutchinson confessed to a row with his wife which ended in his battering her to death with a baton kept for burglars. He described how he dragged an unused door into the bedroom on which he lay his wife's bloody body. As his daughter by his first marriage, then aged 14, slept in another room, he spent the night cutting up the body. He poured the blood into a drain beneath the bedroom wash-basin.

Exhausted, Hutchinson snatched a few hours' sleep before taking a shower and driving his daughter, Kadinka, to school. On his return, he burnt pieces of his wife's body in old paint tins and a fire grate before dumping other remains. The court also sentenced Hutchinson to a further three months and a fine of £500 for dismembering the body.

He had been arrested two months after his wife vanished. He repeated his confession to a Spanish examining judge and agreed to renege the murder but later retracted the confession.

Mr Davidson said last night: "We have been through three years of hell but finally justice has been done." He and his wife were visited by Det Supt Den, who said: "We are very pleased at the outcome."

He also learnt that Hutchinson had given conflicting stories about his wife's disappearance in February 1989. He told his cousin, Audrey Sutherland, that Mrs Hutchinson, a soprano, had gone to the Seville opera house. Later he said that she might have gone to an audition at Covent Garden.

There were other suspicious circumstances. Why had Mrs Hutchinson not contacted her two sons by a previous marriage, spoken to her parents, or sent mother's day flowers as usual? Mrs Hutchinson's dog was left at the villa, and so was her jewellery, passport and clothing, which were found by neighbours.

The Crown Office refused to grant extradition papers, but Det Supt Den and Detective Sergeant Gordon Thomson flew to Spain to exchange information. They met inspectors Alfredo Tarjuelo and Jesus Pena, and cemented a relationship with a bottle of Scotch whisky. The Spanish police, too, became convinced that Mrs Hutchinson had been murdered.

Throughout a police interview Hutchinson, from Hartlepool, Cleveland, and who ran a removal business in Spain, remained calm. An interview with a family maid provided a breakthrough: she had found traces of blood in the couple's bedroom. Spanish police drove to Bel Canto in the early hours and woke Hutchinson as he lay in bed with a Dutch model.

Although the bedroom had been freshly painted there were still signs of blood extending six feet up the walls. Eventually Hutchinson confessed to a row with his wife which ended in his battering her to death with a baton kept for burglars. He described how he dragged an unused door into the bedroom on which he lay his wife's bloody body. As his daughter by his first marriage, then aged 14, slept in another room, he spent the night cutting up the body. He poured the blood into a drain beneath the bedroom wash-basin.

Exhausted, Hutchinson snatched a few hours' sleep before taking a shower and driving his daughter, Kadinka, to school. On his return, he burnt pieces of his wife's body in old paint tins and a fire grate before dumping other remains. The court also sentenced Hutchinson to a further three months and a fine of £500 for dismembering the body.

He had been arrested two months after his wife vanished. He repeated his confession to a Spanish examining judge and agreed to renege the murder but later retracted the confession.



# Who says the biggest can't be the best?

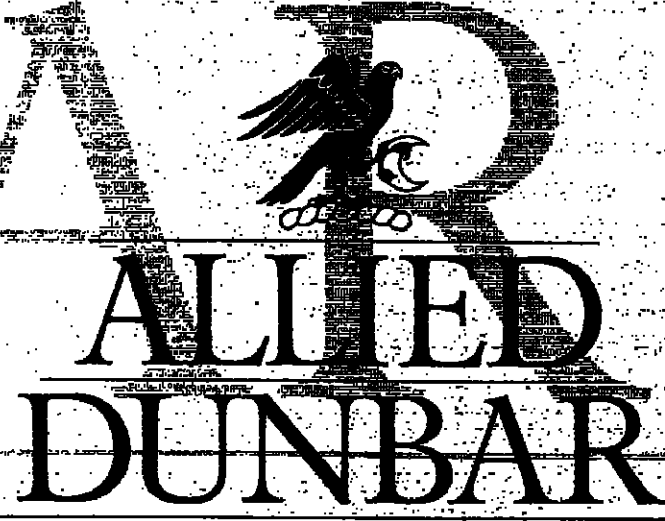
LIFE MANAGED FUNDS  
40 LARGEST FUNDS WITH A 5 YEAR RECORD

Position	Fund Name	Fund Size (£bn)	Average Return
1	Allied Dunbar	1922.8	25.8
2	Equity & Law	782.2	25.8
3	Marshall Wain	771.8	25.8
4	Standard Life	734.4	25.8
5	Black Horse	700.9	25.8
6	Teachers	688.9	25.8
7	Clifford Mowbray	670.2	25.8
8	Acorn	603.8	25.8
9	Royal London	588.8	25.8
10	Sun Life	588.8	25.8
11	London & Lancashire	481.2	25.8
12	London Life	400.4	25.8
13	Albany	388.4	25.8
14	Sun Life of Canada	378.2	25.8
15	Crown	321.2	25.8
16	Albany	300.4	25.8
17	Sun Life Manager	278.8	25.8
18	Pearl	248.2	25.8
19	General Building	211.2	25.8
20	TSB	191.2	25.8
21	Scottish Equitable	188.8	25.8
22	Hill Samson	188.2	25.8
23	Confederation	115.8	25.8
24	Provident	93.8	25.8
25	M & G	308.8	22.8
26	Friends Provident	104.8	22.8
27	Prudential	93.8	22.8
28	Scottish Mutual	483.8	22.8
29	Scottish Widows	121.2	22.8
30	Sun Alliance	510.4	22.8
31	Scottish Amicable	234.8	22.8
32	NPI	319.3	22.8
33	Laurentian	199.1	22.8
34	GRE	183.9	22.8
35	Manulife	398.7	22.8
36	Barclays Life	128.4	22.8
37	Eagle Star	392.6	22.8
38	Cornhill	97.0	22.8
39	Prolific	123.5	22.8
40	Commercial Union	118.7	22.8

Allied Dunbar's Life Managed Fund has achieved the best average ranking over the last one, two, three, four and five years.

Proof that the biggest can be the best.

To arrange a meeting with one of our financial advisers, telephone our free 24-hour answerphone service on 0800 010700.



STOP PRESS: ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS - WINNERS OF THE 1991 SUNDAY TIMES 'UNIT TRUST MANAGERS OF THE YEAR UK FUND AWARD'. THE 40 FUNDS SHOWN ARE THE 40 LARGEST LIFE MANAGED FUNDS THAT HAVE A FIVE YEAR RECORD. THE DATA USED IS FROM THE FINANCIAL TIMES FINSTAT DATA AND IS CALCULATED ON AN OFFER TO BID BASIS AS AT 1 DECEMBER 1991. PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARILY A GUARANTEE OF FUTURE PERFORMANCE. ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE PLC IS A MEMBER OF LAUTRO.



# Immigration agency found guilty of racial bias

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

AN IMMIGRANT advice agency agreed yesterday to pay £11,000 damages to a senior employee after an industrial tribunal found it guilty of racial discrimination.

The move by the United Kingdom Immigrants Advisory Service came less than 24 hours after the resignation of its director at the end of a stormy resumed annual meeting at which he narrowly lost a vote of confidence.

The tribunal awarded the

damages to Edward Yaansah, a Ghanaian educated at Oxford, after finding that he had not been appointed deputy director of the organisation because of his race. The job went instead to Shamsuddin Choudhury, from Bangladesh.

During a tribunal hearing last year, evidence was presented on behalf of Mr Yaansah, a senior councillor with the advisory service, alleging that procedures were discriminatory and that an interview question to the successful Asian candidate had been planted.

Paul Nicholas, the solicitor for Mr Yaansah, said: "It is deeply regrettable that an organisation that should be providing an example to others should have allowed itself to get into this situation." He urged the service, which receives £1.7 million Home Office funding, to adopt an equal opportunity policy within three months and to review its recruitment and promotion systems.

The government has become so concerned at ethnic infighting on the 13-strong executive that it has called on the advisory service to adopt a new constitution and is reviewing the conditions under which it funds the organisation. Earlier this week, the service was stripped of its responsibility for the legal protection of asylum seekers.

Peter Lloyd, the immigration minister, has told the service to alter its constitution to make it more representative of ethnic minorities, to allow the Home Office representative observer status at executive and annual meetings, to remove from office people with a financial interest in immigration and to prevent executive members from interfering in day to day management of the organisation.

Last night, however, Helen Ellis, one of the organisation's vice-presidents, said that she doubted whether the council would be able to end factional fighting and called on the Home Office to support staff demands for the service to be dissolved and replaced by another organisation.

Michael Pickett, chairman of staff unions at the advisory service, said: "The staff are in despair at all the infighting. It has to stop."

## Plea fails over dead parrot

BY BILL FROST

A COUPLE whose parrot died ten days after being bought from a pet shop lost their claim for compensation yesterday in a case reminiscent of a Monty Python sketch.

Mary and John Trebell, of Truro, Cornwall, owners of Joey, the eight-month-old African Grey, told Truro county court: "She must have died during the night. Joey was on her side at the bottom of the cage."

They complained to Graham Marks, the pet shop owner, and asked for their money back. A post mortem examination found that Joey died from a fungal disease.

Mr Marks said: "I know Joey was healthy when she left us, but it is possible the bird could have died from shock."

"Joey might have been frightened by a noise, or car headlights flashing through the window. African Greys are susceptible to shock."

After a two-hour hearing in chambers, the judge ruled against the claim for £153 compensation.

After the hearing, Mr Marks said that he had suggested to the couple that they select another parrot at cost price, £100, but they declined.



MARK PEPPER

Race tracks: Mike Bradbury, a competitor in this winter's British husky team races, training in the Black Mountains of Wales. Although practising in snow gives husky racing the authentic touch, the competition is usually held on hard ground with lightweight wheeled rigs (Alix Ramsay writes).

This week the six-dog race, held in Loch Ard forest in Scotland's Central region, was won by John Coyle

of Scotland. Eighty-five mushers and their huskies competed over a flat eight-mile course, with some teams reaching 25mph. The fourth race in the series will be held in Kielder forest, Northumberland, on February 15.

Britain has become one of the leading countries in racing on dry ground and specialises in sprint races. With about 150 teams in competition, the sport is growing

fast here, especially in Scotland, where the weather and terrain are more suited to a sport normally associated with Alaska and Canada. The Siberian huskies were originally bred for speed, the theory being that a large team of light dogs would not fall through the pack ice as a small group of heavy dogs would.

"Musher" is now a misnomer. Nobody yells "Mush" at their dogs any more, a word which was probably a

corruption of *marchez*, the command which French prospectors gave their dogs in the days of the gold rush.

The organiser of the Loch Ard race was Ross Goldie. He first bought a husky seven years ago and now, with ten dogs, he and his wife give lectures on working and racing teams. "The appeal of the sport is the animals themselves," he said. "The racing is an additional attraction."

## Lassy puts bite on TV licence dodgers

A powerful computer system that gives instant access to television licence records is being used against evaders.

A campaign began in London at the start of the month and is being extended to cover the South-East, using a fleet of new detector vans. Post Office investigators, with the help of the Licence Administration Support System nicknamed Lassy - are catching more than 1,000 evaders each day.

The computer can call up any of 24 million addresses and issue print-outs. An estimated 1.9 million licence dodgers deprive the BBC of £150 million a year.

## Pair remanded

Mark Dooley, aged 18, and Timothy Kelly, aged 21, of Deptford, southeast London, were remanded in custody by the Central Criminal Court after admitting the manslaughter of Ronald Harrison, a retired headmaster.

## Boys tortured

A sea cadets lieutenant from London was jailed for three and a half years by the Central Criminal Court for sadistic sex attacks on boys in his charge who were told that they had to pass through an initiation ceremony of pain.

## Gas charge

British Gas is to stand trial at Luton crown court over explosions at Royston, Hertfordshire, last March allegedly caused by a gas surge after a pipeline was laid.

## Foul play

A tractor-driving joyrider caused up to £20,000 of damage to Romsey golf course, Hampshire, when he churned up the 11th green and damaged two fairways.

## Jolly good

Michael McCarthy, aged 43, a bistro owner of Mossley, Greater Manchester, has been chosen as the voice of the laughing man figure on Blackpool pleasure beach.

## Body found

Police are trying to identify a dead man found stuck in a Thames mud bank under Southwark Bridge.

## Farms seek £30m landscape cash

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

NEARLY 1,200 farmers have applied for grants to conserve and restore threatened landscapes under a countryside stewardship scheme launched last June. It was announced yesterday.

The Countryside Commission, which administers the grants on behalf of the environment department, said that they were being increased from £13 million over three years to £30 million over four. Sir John Johnson, the commission chairman, said it was hoped that the pilot scheme would lead to a national conservation system.

If all the 1,183 applications are approved, the scheme will cover about 170 square miles, in a third of which the grants depend on the public being

given access. Farmers are paid up to £120 an acre under ten-year contracts for protecting or recreating five types of countryside: chalk and limestone grassland, lowland heath, grazing marshes, water meadows and other wetlands, coastal vegetation and uplands.

All these landscapes have been severely damaged by ploughing and draining uncultivated land and by heavily subsidised, intensive agriculture that has led to overgrazing. The highest payments are for farmers who not merely preserve such landscapes but restore them, for example, by letting arable fields revert to pasture, heath, heather moorland or hay meadows, or by leaving swaths of uncultivated land along cliff-tops.

There are payments for restoring such traditional features as drystone walls, hedgerows, reed beds and pollarded willows. Farmers qualify for an extra £20 an acre if they allow the public on to their land.

Sir John said that the commission would soon announce plans to extend the grants to "green margins": areas on the fringes of towns and cities preserved from development by green-belt controls but often allowed to fall into a semi-derelict state. Michael Kirby, the commission's director of operations, said: "Government policy has been successful in checking urban sprawl, but little attention has been given to positive exploitation of areas of land on city fringes."

Friends of the Earth welcomed the cash increase but said that the proposed expenditure was tiny when compared with the £1,600 million spent every year on subsidising agricultural production. Robin Maynard, its countryside campaigner, said: "It is hard to take the government's commitment seriously when its main answer to agricultural overproduction is still the sterile set-aside scheme which simply pays farmers to leave their land idle."

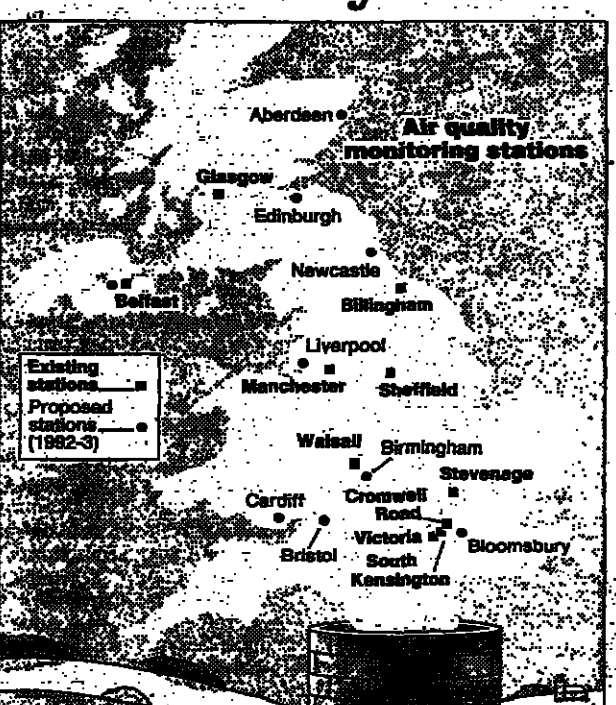
## City air 'breaks safety limits'

BY PAUL WILKINSON

AIR IN four of Britain's cities is so badly polluted that it breaks European Commission safety levels, Friends of the Earth said yesterday. Average nitrogen dioxide levels in London, Birmingham, Manchester and Cardiff exceed the EC safety limit of 40 parts per billion, according to a survey by the environmental pressure group.

Conditions in Sheffield, Glasgow, Bristol, Bradford, and Farnham in Surrey are little better and needed careful monitoring, according to the survey, carried out over Christmas and the new year. Details of the survey for BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme were released yesterday as David Trippier, the environment minister, launched a £3 million extension to the government's air pollution monitoring system. Mr Trippier said the survey was "cheap and cheerful" and not sufficiently authoritative even though the results were analysed at the government's Harwell laboratories.

Ten environment department stations already sample atmospheric conditions. Their readings are used for



short term pollution warnings, particularly of vehicle exhausts, and also help scientists to trace the effectiveness of long term measures to improve air quality.

In London yesterday, Mr Trippier inaugurated the capital's fourth site and the first

of a batch of more sophisticated units. By the end of the year he expects five more, in Belfast, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Birmingham and Newcastle. Extra sites at Liverpool, Bristol and Aberdeen will open early next year and by 1995 there will be 24.

## Canny farmer plots floral hereafter

BY KERRY GILL

FOR years, Ian Alcock dreaded the thought of being buried in an official cemetery, a practice that he considered morbid and exorbitantly expensive.

As he grew older Mr Alcock, aged 56, and his wife Alison began to look favourably on a wildflower meadow within a site of scientific interest overlooking his 500-acre farm on Royal Deeside. The meadow would, he thought, be a delightful place to be interred beside his wife when the day of reckoning arrived.

Yesterday, Kincardine and Deeside district council, after consulting the Nature Conservancy Council for Scotland, gave permission for the meadow

to be turned into a private burial ground. There are no plans to have the plot consecrated, but Mr Alcock said: "Over the years the church has come people into thinking they should be buried in consecrated ground, which is not true. And I object to the undertaking, card rubbing their hands when somebody dies. A thousand pounds is nothing these days."

He also denied that his plans to inter his wife were morbid. Using his own mechanical digger, Mr Alcock believes that he can cut the cost to around £28, the price of a cheap plywood coffin.

"If my wife goes first I can operate the digger," he said. "If I go first, I have left her a list of neighbours who have diggers. The ridiculous thing is

that when one of my cows dies I can go ahead and bury it, but I need planning permission to bury my wife who is only a third of the size. When I die I would much rather lie in my own bit of ground than be lined up in a cemetery with a row of people I don't know."

Mr Alcock insisted that his wife was in total accord with his views. The burial ground must be created within five years after which the Allocks must re-apply, unless the Great Reaper sends for either of them first. Any fencing or headstones would need separate permission, but Mr Alcock said that he had no intention of ruining the meadow except to plant a tree or place a small boulder on the spot where he and his wife lie.



## The new BT Azure - voice activated dialling for safer driving

Face facts. Dialling on a carphone can be a risky business. Even with "hands free" systems, you still have to take your hands off the wheel and your eyes off the road to dial.

But not with the BT Azure. It's the only truly reliable - truly voice activated - car phone. Just tell it the number you want and it will confirm your instructions before dialling. You can even programme it to respond to a name for up to 30 of your most frequently used numbers.

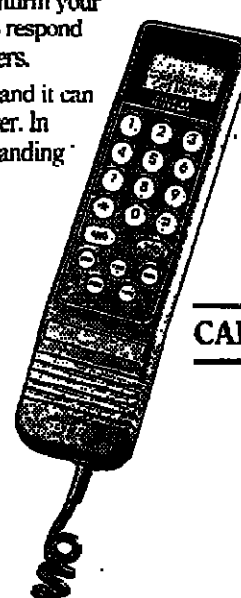
BT Azure can respond to any voice, not just a single user, and it can answer automatically too, without you having to lift a finger. In fact, the hands free and eyes free BT Azure offers an outstanding range of road safety features.

And as with all BT cellphones, the Azure comes with:

- Top quality coverage from the Cellnet network
- Callback - the ultimate answering service
- 12 months Supercover maintenance and free 24 hour Customer Service Helpline
- Dedicated support team for major accounts

So don't be a reckless dialler. Try talking to the BT Azure. To find out how the BT Azure can meet your company's requirements, call us now on 0800 222 656.

Be Mobile. Be Sure. BT.



Recommended as an aid to Road Safety

CALL FREE 0800 222 656





## Speaker separates warring parties

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

BERNARD Weatherill, the Speaker, yesterday warned MPs of the growing public distaste for the electioneering which is disfiguring Commons proceedings.

In a clear rebuke to Tory MPs who lob electioneering questions to the prime minister, Mr Weatherill warned them in advance not to ask Mr Major to comment on the policies of other parties for which he was not responsible. Tory MPs have counter-attacked that Labour whips have been involved in organising programmed barracking of ministers, and earlier yesterday Mr Weatherill had to appeal for "moderation in language".

At a morning press conference Roy Hattersley, Labour's deputy leader, had complained of the country being engulfed by a crime wave and promised that Labour would increase the number of police, paying for them from within the existing budget by ceasing to send to prison "people who shouldn't be there".

At Home Office question

time John Patten, the minister of state, accused the Opposition of proposing "to empty our prisons to pay for more police — that coming from a Labour party which in 1979 left the police force of this country 8,000 under strength". After Mr Patten had said that being "assaulted" by Mr Hattersley was like being attacked by a bread and butter pudding, Mr Weatherill called for moderate language "since we have all got to live with each other for the next few months in an electioneering atmosphere".

But the partisan exchanges continued when the next week's business was discussed. MPs have noted that these weekly sessions are regularly included in the television coverage of the prime minister's Thursday questions and Tory MPs used them yet again to draw attention to Labour's tax policies.

This drew protests from Dr Jack Cunningham, who is both shadow leader of the Commons and Labour's campaign co-ordinator, that the "premeditated dishonesty" of

Conservative Central Office should not be permitted to be read into Hansard's reports of Commons proceedings.

After the charge of organised Labour barracking by Tory MP Robert Hughes, the Speaker said that the bad behaviour was coming from both sides and giving him some difficulty in defending MPs against the public who wrote in to complain.

Nothing stopped the daily barrage inside and outside the chamber. After Neil Kinnock's prediction in a *Financial Times* interview that Labour would win the election with an overall majority of 20 seats, Chris Patten, the Conservative chairman, refused to give his own precise forecast but emphasised: "We will win it with a good enough majority to ensure Britain is well governed in the 1990s."

Dr Cunningham yesterday denied as "absolutely false" reports that Mr Kinnock and his shadow chancellor John Smith were split over National Insurance changes while Mr Hattersley called the story a "malicious lie".

## Ministers turn on the charm for children

By Jill Sherman, Political Correspondent

MINISTERS are divided over how to reinforce the Tory claim to be the party of the family. Although extra help for childcare costs will be a centrepiece of the Budget, no agreement has yet been reached on whether to extend tax relief on childcare, to raise child benefit or to direct more cash to those on low incomes.

Ministers have been actively lobbied by professional women who are pressing for an extension on tax relief on workplace nurseries to cover provision not located on company premises.

Angela Rumbold, chairman of the ministerial group on women, and Gillian Shephard, the deputy chairman, are understood to favour the scheme. Although Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, is said to oppose this idea, it would be an easy sweetener to introduce in the Budget, merely extending a tax change introduced by John Major when he was Chancellor in 1990.

Some government advisers are now arguing that this would not be the best way of targeting mothers who are most in need of extra help. Under a scheme to extend tax relief for work-

ing mothers, two-earner families who probably need the help least would benefit most, and prosperous families would gain at the expense of the poor.

Some ministers argue that the Tories should be supporting women who choose not to go to work, as well as those who do. One way of helping all mothers would be to raise child benefit. If increases were confined to either the eldest child or to children aged three and four, the government could still argue that it was helping families with childcare costs.

After four years of uncertainty over whether child benefit would wither on the vine, the prime minister has made it clear that he supports the scheme, and the manifesto is expected to confirm a pledge by Tony Newton, the social security secretary, that it will be uprated annually. Although child benefit is usually uprated in the autumn to come into effect the following April, last year Mr Lamont used the Budget to announce a mid-year increase in child benefit for the eldest child, to take effect in October 1991. This brought child benefit to



Women's work: Angela Rumbold is said to favour tax relief for nursery care

£9.25 for the eldest child and £7.50 for subsequent children. This April benefits will rise again to £9.65 and £7.80.

Child benefit now goes to nearly seven million families with 12.3 million children, at a cost of £5.3 billion

(rising to £5.7 billion next year). The cheaper option would be to target families with children under five.

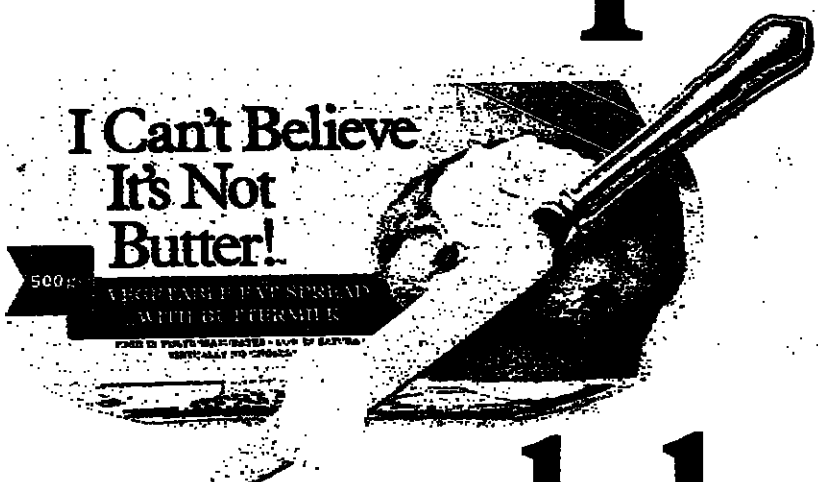
A third option would be to raise family credit for low-income working families and increase family premiums on income support

which goes to the unemployed. Under both social security benefits families get less for children under 11. A working family with a child under 11 is entitled to a maximum of £38.30 a week for the adult credit, plus £9.70 for the child. The means-tested family credit scheme costs £484 million and covers 315,000 families. Income support goes to 4.2 million families and costs £8.54 billion. All families get an extra £7.95 a week. Under this option John Major could redress criticism that the gap between the rich and the poor widened considerably under 11 years of Thatcherism.

One or two of these options could be introduced in the Budget on March 10. However, under all the proposals except for extending tax relief, there is no guarantee that money will be spent on childcare.

Another idea being floated is to ensure that money is earmarked for child support by using a voucher scheme. Mothers would apply for a voucher, say at the post office, to go towards childcare costs. The voucher could then be put towards costs of a registered nursery or childminder.

# Under a quid for a double pack.



# How could you possibly mistake it for butter?

No, your eyes aren't deceiving you.

For the next few weeks, "I Can't Believe It's Not Butter!" is down to a price you'll hardly believe.

So low in fact, you've got absolutely no excuse for confusing it with butter.

As we keep telling you, it's a vegetable fat spread high in polyunsaturates, low in saturates and containing virtually no cholesterol.

Alright, so we do make it with buttermilk. And it does have a fresh butter-like taste.

But whatever your taste buds may tell you, it's not butter. Okay? All clear?

If you still don't believe us, look out for our double pack at our special offer price.

At under £1, it could only be "I Can't Believe It's Not Butter!"

"I Can't Believe It's Not Butter!" is available for under £1 a double pack in most major retailers.

## Labour revises pledge on taxes

By Peter Mulligan

LABOUR last night qualified its pledge that no one earning less than £21,000 a year would lose under the plan to remove the national insurance upper earnings limit.

Michael Meacher, the shadow social security secretary, conceded in the Commons that some people on lower salaries who earn bonuses, overtime or commission, would be affected. Responding to taunts about the value of the pledge, he said: "It is a guarantee that all of those whose normal pay is at that level will not have to pay more."

He said the qualification was a "tiny little discrepancy" which would bear on "a few dozen, maybe a few hundred" people. Mr Meacher was responding to a challenge after saying Labour would not seek contributions to pay for its spending programme "from anyone earning less than £21,000 a year or £405 a week".

The admission was seized on by Tony Newton, the social security secretary, who said that a great many more than a few dozen people would be hit by the proposal if their weekly income went over the limit at which national insurance is advanced.

The exchanges took place during a debate on poverty in which Labour accused the government of wilfully impoverishing the poorer part of the population and claimed that more than ten million people live below the poverty line.

Mr Meacher said the Tories were ignoring the beneficial effect Labour's proposals — to boost pensions and child benefit — would have on the poor.

Defending the government's record, Mr Newton was sharply challenged when he claimed support from the social security select committee. Frank Field, the committee chairman, accused him of using "highly selective quotations" from a committee report to argue that income increases had been seen at all levels. Despite repeated challenges, Mr Newton refused to accept a finding by the committee that the smallest increase had gone to the poor.

Mr Field said that some of his constituents were without hope because of the policies pursued by ministers. "While the average of living standards have increased, under the stewardship of this government, the poor have seen the very smallest increase," he said.

## AROUND THE LOBBY

### Baker to tackle car crime

A £5 million campaign against car crime is to be launched on February 11 with the support of manufacturers and big insurance companies. Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, announced during question time.

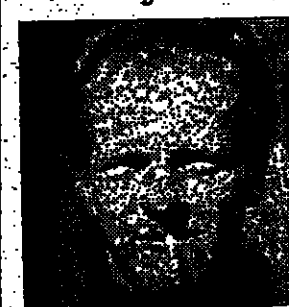
The government had urged car makers to fit deadlocks, immobilisation devices and visible identification numbers, he said.

Mr Baker, who has met car manufacturers three times since December, added that when he first met them they did not seem to take the prevention of car crime very seriously. Now they were much more prepared to make cars more secure.

### Bills split

The Local Government Finance Bill, which replaces the poll tax with the council tax, will allow householders to pay the tax in ten instalments. Robert Key, an environment minister, said in a written reply. Councils will also be able to let tenants pay the tax with their rents weekly or fortnightly.

### Bentley case



John Patten, a Home Office minister, said in a written reply that he has now received the police report on the Derek Bentley case and hoped to decide soon whether any action was appropriate. Bentley (above) was hanged for the murder of a police officer but his accomplice, Christopher Craig, who was too young to hang, has cast doubt on the correctness of the conviction.

### Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private members' bills: Traffic Calming Bill and Freedom of Information Bill, second readings.

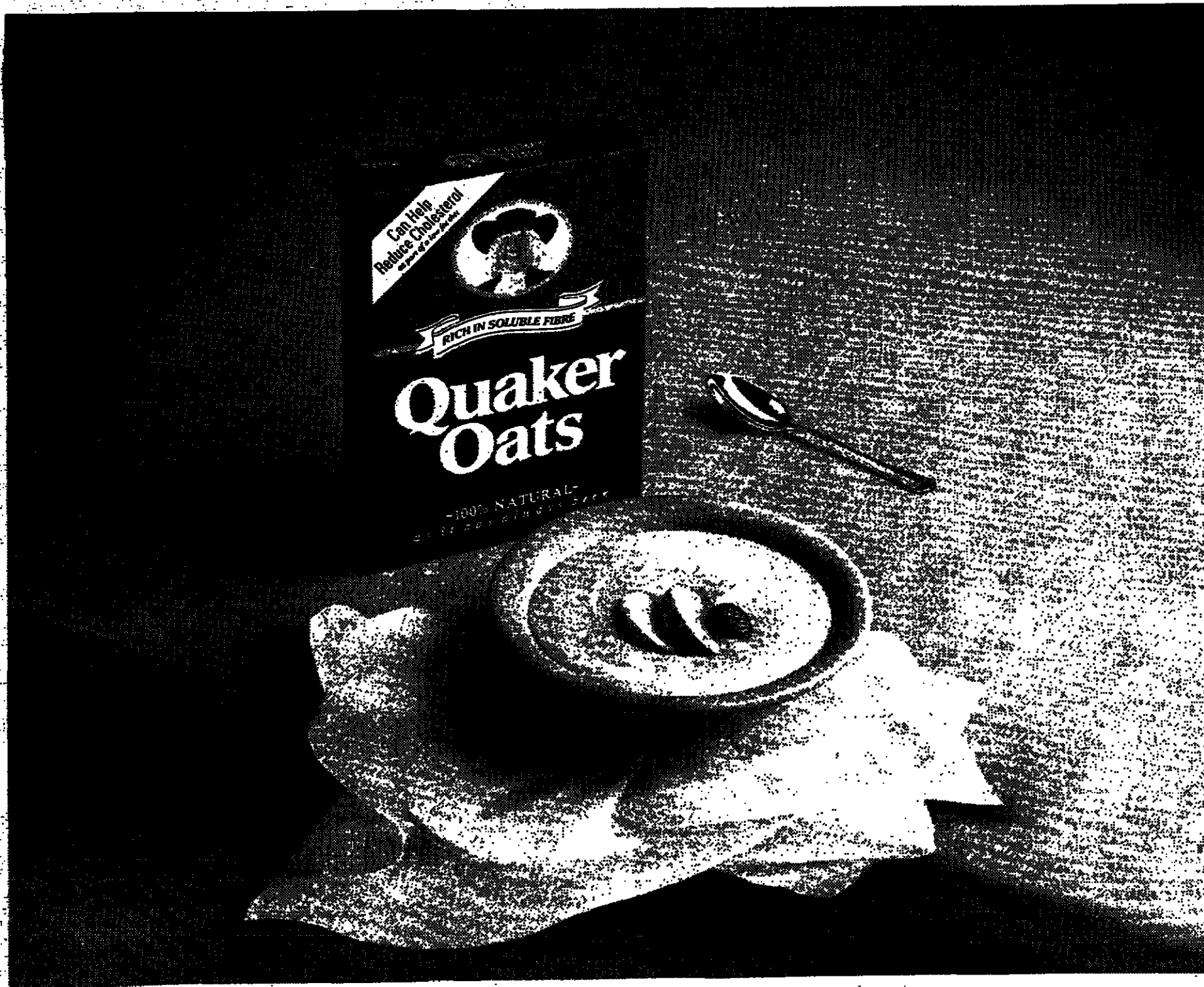
## Next week's business

THE main business in the House of Commons next week is expected to be: Monday: Northern Ireland electricity orders. Tuesday: Prison Security Bill, remaining stages. Wednesday: Education (Schools) Bill, remaining stages. Thursday: Revenue support grant orders for England and for Wales. Friday: Private members' medicinal products: prescription by nurses etc bill and Civil Rights (Disabled Persons) Bill, second readings.

The main business in the Lords is expected to be: Monday: Local Government Finance Bill, committee, third day. Tuesday: Local Government Finance Bill, committee, fourth day. Wednesday: Debates on Wales and on the challenges facing the UN secretary-general. Thursday: Local Government Finance Bill, committee, fifth day. Friday: Coal Industry Bill, second reading, Osteopaths Bill, second reading.



# TO REDUCE YOUR CHOLESTEROL, EAT TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT.



Two adults in three have high cholesterol. But don't let that ruin your appetite. At least not for Quaker Oats. Because tests have shown that eating oats can significantly reduce cholesterol. And eating oats every day can help lower it even more.

Of course you should also be following a low-fat diet. So while you're cutting back on things like red meat, whole milk, eggs, butter and cheese, when it comes to Quaker Oats you can give caution the boot. And eat to your heart's content.

**QUAKER. 92 YEARS OLD AND STILL GOING STRONG.**

FOR MORE ABOUT OATS, WRITE TO QUAKER OATS NUTRITION CENTRE, DEPT. NC0206, WINTERHILL, MILTON KEYNES MK6 1HQ.



# Britain's newest city casts off its growing pains

AN ESTIMATED 50 million daffodils are preparing to pop their heads above ground to welcome the spring and mark a new phase in the development of Britain's newest city.

Milton Keynes, which legally came into existence 25 years ago yesterday, tends to produce such facts. The average worker in the city has to travel only ten minutes from home to office, according to the Development Corporation and once there, works 18 minutes to earn the price of a Big Mac hamburger in the city's shopping mall.

The city is now entering a new mature phase and is providing more meaningful figures, for in spite of its apparent ability to shrug off the effects of the recession and keep attracting new industry, the city does have 2,000 people who are officially homeless and the divorce rate and mortgage repossession rate are running higher than the national average.

Within ten weeks the city will enter the next stage in its life when the Development Corporation, which has used its planning powers to force

Milton Keynes is celebrating its 25th year with maturity, David Young writes

through many of the far-reaching schemes which have made the city successful, is wound up. Its role will be handed over to the Commission for the New Towns, Buckinghamshire county council and Milton Keynes borough council.

Some of the proposals of the transfer have upset the borough council. While it leaves the council with responsibility for refuse collecting and the county council in control of education, roads and libraries, some of the city's most valuable assets have been transferred to a new trust which will look after the parks and open spaces.

Frank Hanshaw, the general manager of the Development Corporation, who with Lord Chilver, its chairman, yesterday cut a huge birthday cake to mark the city's 25th anniversary, said that in its last weeks of existence the corporation would be working flat out to finalise as much

of the development of the city as possible.

One of the final announcements will be of particular pleasure to the corporation. The city, in spite of having facilities for most sports, has lacked a large sports stadium but permission has been given for the British Hockey Association to set up its headquarters in Milton Keynes and to eventually develop a 20,000-seat stadium.

Mr Hanshaw said that the corporation had been so busy for the past few weeks that there had been no time for any regrets. "It will probably hit us on April 1 and we will realise the enormity of the success that has been created here," he said.

Milton Keynes was designated England's last and largest "new town" in 1967. Some 33 square miles of north Buckinghamshire countryside, with three small regional towns and 13 villages, were transformed into Britain's "modern urban area".

The city's population has increased from 40,000 to 150,000, while more than 66,000 new jobs have been created since 1967. More than 45,000 new homes of various shapes and sizes have been built. At one time the building work accounted for 1 per cent of annual new housing in Britain.

Nearly 25 million square metres of commercial property have been completed so far, and Milton Keynes boasts Britain's first multi-screen cinema, first city centre ecclesiastical church and what was once Europe's largest covered shopping mall.

The skyline, according to those who live there, is "modern and different" with low-rise buildings, an American-influenced grid road system, 15 million trees and few television aerials, as it has one of the biggest cable networks in the country.

More than 2,700 business are based in the city, 10 per cent of them from overseas. America is represented by nearly 90 companies, and with 43 Japanese firms it is second only to London.

Leading article, page 15



Milk substitute: one of the concrete cows that have replaced real cattle in Milton Keynes

## Miss this offer and you'll kick yourself!

Stay overnight and get a weekend for two...

**FREE!**

From February 3rd to March 12th all guests staying at participating Toby Hotels on either a Monday or a Thursday will receive a voucher for a Free weekend for two usable anytime up to the end of September 1992. The weekend would normally cost £80. When you're there, all we ask is for you to enjoy at least one superb meal at the hotel's Toby Grill or Toby Carving Room (See voucher for details).

**That's not all!** During the offer period, from Tuesday to Friday, each Toby Hotel will be giving away another FREE weekend for two. Just hand in your name and address to the hotel reception (no purchase necessary) to participate in the daily 17.50am Draw.

You'll find a warm welcome at every one of the 40 Toby Hotels around the country. Every room has an ensuite bathroom, colour TV, radio and telephone and guests can benefit from our "Regular Guest" scheme.

Just check the locations of our Hotels, confirm on which days the offer applies, and make your reservation.

You'll kick yourself if you don't!



### We'll turn business into pleasure

TOWN	Toby Hotel	TELEPHONE
Belfast	Embarkment	0234 251332
London	Windsor Square	011 580 4559
Manchester	Punch	0302 370037
Leeds	Sutton	0113 27581
Edinburgh	Edinburgh	0777 521557
Exeter	Exeter Arms	0392 433553
Gloucester	St George & Dragon	0392 675121
Harrogate	Grave	0452 432092
Leeds	Brudenell	0535 626201
Leeds	Bank Top	0113 27581
Leeds	Longwood	0203 325711
Leeds	Isle of Skye	0738 244712

TOWN	Toby Hotel	TELEPHONE
Prescot	Carlton	0535 78211
Rothwell	Lakers	0737 784552
Stratford	Hall House	01351 2017
Stockport	Rodford	061 432 2753
Stoke on Trent	Trentham	0782 644443
Wetherby	Bridge Inn	01937 580115

TOWN	Toby Hotel	TELEPHONE
Stratford	Carlton	0535 78211
Stratford	Lakers	0737 784552
Stratford	Hall House	01351 2017
Stratford	Rodford	061 432 2753
Stratford	Trentham	0782 644443
Stratford	Bridge Inn	01937 580115

TOWN	Toby Hotel	TELEPHONE
Stratford	Carlton	0535 78211
Stratford	Lakers	0737 784552
Stratford	Hall House	01351 2017
Stratford	Rodford	061 432 2753
Stratford	Trentham	0782 644443
Stratford	Bridge Inn	01937 580115

\*Some hotels have an ensuite shower. Offer not open to employees of Toby Hotels and their subsidiaries or companies. Amounts are correct as at the time of printing. Subject to change without notice.



## Bird protectors hunt down the Eurocrats

THE environment Eurocrats of Brussels, eagle-eyed spotters of problems with British road-building or tap water, are being accused of turning a blind eye to a £300 million river diversion scheme in Greece that threatens the survival of the Dalmatian pelican and other endangered bird species.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds has appealed to the Council of Europe and the United Nations to take action against the European Commission, which it claims is flouting the Bern Convention for the Protection of European Wildlife.

The society says that the diversion of Greece's largest river, the Acheloos, to provide irrigation and hydroelectric power, will drain one of Europe's most important wetland areas near the ancient town of Mesolongi, where Lord Byron died in 1824. It says that the Commission has deliberately ignored the likely damage the project will cause because it is co-financed by the European Community.

As well as the Dalmatian pelican, of which there are now said to be only a few dozen breeding pairs in Europe, the society says that the draining of the 150-acre wetlands will impact the migratory slender-billed curlew, which rests there en route to Morocco from Siberia. It says that there are fewer than 100 of the birds in the world.

"There will be a dramatic change in the local ecology," Rob Lake, the society's European officer, said. "Water will simply not be available for these birds." The Acheloos scheme shows how the Commission's environmental aims can often be at odds with its regional policy initiatives, into which it has pumped £40 billion in the past five years. A senior official at the Council of Europe, the Strasbourg-based body that tries to ensure that 23 European countries adhere to the various conventions they have signed, said that

A Greek irrigation project has led to a flood of complaints, Tom Walker writes

the project was another example of the Commission's right hand not knowing what the left was doing. Señor Fernández Galliano, who heads the Bern Convention secretariat at the council, said that the Commission's regional aid planners "often appear not even to think about the environmental costs" of their projects.

Vima, a Greek Sunday paper, has further clouded the issue by highlighting the mystery of the project's funds. Vima claims a specialist committee originally

son says. "You have to say that some of the Club Med countries do tend to put some things off the shelf that have not been properly examined. I don't want to turn this into a north-south issue, but I believe we should start by helping these countries put proper planning authorities in place." Mr Harrison also points out that, by seeking to irrigate the Plain of Thessaly to boost arable output, the project flies in the face of reforming the over-productive common agricultural policy.

It also helps the European Commission to shoot itself in the foot, he says, by backing existing EC-funded aqueducts, projects further downstream. Vasso Papandreou, Greek social affairs commissioner, is known to oppose the project for the same reason.

Amid the growing furor, Henning Christopherson, the finance commissioner, last week assured MEPs that the impact of investments made will not run counter to the objectives of the CAP. He said the Commission was satisfied that the Greek government had made adequate environmental impact studies for the scheme, which could be approved in March.

The RSFP says that this is not true, and that the Commission refuses to answer its detailed questions on the Acheloos project. Señor Galliano says that the Council of Europe will write to the Greek government and the Commission outlining its fears, but admits that there is little it can do to stop the project.

"The Bern Convention is not infallible and in the end it depends on how states play the game," he says. "In the end, they decide what they can and cannot do on national territory." Another member of the council's environment service was more outspoken. "You have to question the attitude of these governments," he said. "Do they want cooperation at all?"



Under threat: the rare Dalmatian pelican

estimated the scheme's cost at about 79 billion drachmas, but says that the Greek government applied for EC funds on the basis of a total cost of 90 billion drachmas.

The European Commission, which has so far agreed to give £90 million to the project, with more likely to follow, has not commented on the allegations. In Strasbourg, a group of MEPs, headed by Lyndon Harrison, the socialist member for Cheshire West, is investigating the use of these so-called "structural funds." "This is another highly questionable example of their use," Mr Harrison says.

## Kitchen husbands opt for divorce

Bears: The dream of many liberated German women to have a "house husband" at home while they work leads to divorce in nine out of 10 cases, according to a survey published yesterday. "They are overworked at home and not respected by their wives," the survey by the Hamburg Institute for Marriage and Family Research concluded.

Marriages between working women and house-bound men last on average only four years, said the survey, published by the popular weekly *Neue Revue*. (Reuter)

### Sex backlash

Stockholm: After 60 years leading the sexual revolution, Swedish sex educators fear a resurgence of religious influence may undo their work. The Association for Sex Education is pressing ahead with programmes, such as selling fruit-flavoured condoms, but director Margot Ingvarsson said it may soon be fighting for issues it thought resolved, such as abortion. (Reuter)

### Suicide panels

Detroit: Suicide-machine inventor, Dr Jack Kevorkian says the medical profession needs a new group of specialists — "obituarists" — qualified to help the terminally ill die. In the *American Journal of Forensic Psychiatry*, he proposed a nationwide network of panels to review cases of people wishing to end their lives. (Reuter)

### Bat flap

Apes: As many as 99 per cent of Western Samoa's ecologically vital fruit bats may be dead as a result of a devastating hurricane last month, scientists said. The two species of bat are crucial to the regeneration of the forest, which were flattened by Cyclone Val. (APF)

### Gypsy hunt

Rome: Police have launched an attack on gypsy child gangs by rounding up parents who allegedly beat the youngsters to force them to rob tourists. Groups of young gypsies are a common sight at tourist attractions like the Colosseum. The children surround visitors while grabbing valuables. (Reuter)

### Singing Jesus

York: The famous York Mystery Plays will feature live music, chorus and dancing for the first time this year, and could even have a singing Jesus. Original music and songs are being written by one of Britain's leading young composers, John Jansson, who has worked with Stephen Sondheim.

### Scent off

Hull: Richard Labour councillors are turning up their noses at a plan to replace the smell of cigarettes and sweat with the aroma of sweet-scented flowers. David Halliwell, chairman of the controlling Labour group on Calderdale council, is spraying the party's room in Hull town hall with a blend of lavender, geranium and patchouli before every meeting.

### Beatle sale

London: Ex-Beatle George Harrison's former home has gone on the market as the perfect retirement pad, priced at £375,000. The three-storey house in London's fashionable Belgrave comes complete with a built-in mahogany music cabinet which Harrison installed for his own record collection.

## Federal dreams win Delors a prize

European Commission president Jacques Delors, the US-based Cable News Network, and Norwegian prime minister Gro Harlem Brundtland have won the annual Onassis foundation awards. The foundation, whose prizes are worth \$100,000 (£55,000), said M Delors was awarded the "Man and Mankind" prize for his personal commitment to the European idea, while CNN won the "Man and Society" award for 10 years of achievement in communications. The Norwegian prime minister was awarded the "Man and Environment" prize for her dedication in emphasising global responsibility and in protecting the environment.

Schwarzkopf and Senator Jesse Helms has sold for \$4,000 (£2,200). The painting, *A Peace Treaty and the New World Order*, went to an anonymous buyer. Mr Bush and Miss Parton appear unclothed; General Schwarzkopf and Mr Helms each wear military breastplates and little else. The work has caused an uproar since it went on display on Saturday at the arts centre in Frederick, Maryland.

Politics in Peru could become a family affair for the Fujimoris. First lady Susana Fujimori said she is willing to run for mayor of the capital — and analysts say she would be tough to beat. "If they need me, I will be mayor of Lima," Señora Fujimori said. "I would be delighted if they called me to serve." The news reportedly surprised President Alberto Fujimori, who

had pledged to support established candidates from his Change '90 party in November's municipal elections.



Mariah Carey's stepfather, has sued the pop singer, saying he paid for her apartment and dental work, but she backed out of a deal to repay him after she hit it big. Joseph Vian of Lake Hiaw

that, New Jersey, is seeking a unspecified share of the more than \$1 million he claims Miss Carey earned since the release of her successful 1990 debut album. Miss Carey's attorney, Peter Paretter, called the suit "totally without merit."

BBC switchboards were jammed when radio personality Derek Jameson and his wife Ellen turned their late night chat show into a phone-in programme. The experiment on Wednesday night resulted in several hundred calls and BBC Radio 2 could not cope with demand. It will have to lay on extra lines for next time, said Gary Bones, producer of *The Jamesons*. Derek said yesterday: "We're stunned, there were so many calls. It goes to show the Great British Public has a lot to say for itself. At last they have got somewhere to say it."

Sovi  
Khrush  
knew  
600,  
Stalin

Estonia  
prime  
minister  
resigns



# Soviet admirals resist Ukraine in siege of Sevastopol



Kravchuk fighting for control of the fleet

WHEN Tolstoy described Sevastopol harbour in 1854, with the city under Anglo-French siege during the Crimean War, he spoke of the "noisy jostle of soldiers in grey, sailors in black and women in all sorts of colours". The sailors in their black and gold uniforms and the women are still there. But the great Black Sea fleet they belong to is demoralised, with many sailors resisting the Ukrainian takeover.

Sevastopol and the Crimea have belonged to a series of European empires over the centuries, but many of the citizens consider themselves, and the fleet, thoroughly Russian.

The fleet accounts for a quarter of the former Soviet navy's firepower. "I will not sign the Ukrainian oath. The

Control of the Black Sea fleet has become a test of Russia's ambitions and Ukraine's will to break Moscow's dominance, Robert Seely writes from Sevastopol

fleet is a unitary system and you cannot take it apart," Captain Andrei Grachov, spokesman for the fleet's commander, Admiral Igor Kasatonov, said. The admiral's refusal to take orders from Ukraine's defence ministry and his instructions to cut military communications between the fleet and Kiev have won him popularity in Russia. Senior officers at the base talk of their motherland, in the shape of a Russian-dominated Soviet Union, being "taken from us". Sevastopol is used to deal-

ing with sieges: its place as "the pride of Russia" is based on heroic defences. Naval heroes on plinths throughout the city bear witness to Sevastopol's role in tsarist and Soviet military history.

President Kravchuk of Ukraine fired the first salvo in the battle for the fleet over a month ago when he declared that Ukraine, as a "naval power", should have the right to at least part of the fleet's 46 warships and 28 submarines.

The fleet commander's refusal to acquiesce to Ukrainian requests is supported by

many of the Crimea's political leaders. Yesterday, Yuri Mishkov, the Crimea's supreme soviet deputy, and other pro-Russian activists began collecting the 180,000 signatures needed under Crimean law to call a referendum on the peninsula's independence from Ukraine.

If they succeed, the result will muddy an already complex problem. While the Crimea remains part of Ukraine, the republic's claim on the fleet, backed by its funding and the fact that conscripts will be supplied only from Ukraine, is strong. If the Crimean autonomous republic is lost, so is Ukraine's trump card in its battle to secure control of much of the navy.

Ukrainian officers in the fleet, who make up 30 per cent of its total, complain

quietly of job harassment if they support the Ukrainian oath openly. "Many officers are scared for their future careers. They are worried they may lose housing and other benefits," said Captain Nikolai Khuk. Three weeks before last year's coup, Captain Khuk received a letter threatening him with dismissal for "anti-constitutional" activities in his support for the Communist party's retired dacha class and a dominant military presence ensured conformity to the Soviet ideal. Sevastopol, closed since 1982 and still ringed by road and rail checkpoints, has an air of spartan discipline lacking in almost every other former Soviet city.

However, since the collapse of the Soviet Union, people



have become willing to talk. Ivan Pavlovich, aged 82, a former officer, said that he pledged his loyalty to Russia and the Black Sea fleet's present commander. "Admiral Kasatonov is absolutely right when he says Moscow should be in charge of the fleet," he said. "Ukraine wanting its own navy is nationalistic stupidity."

● **Crimea vote:** The Russian parliament voted yesterday to re-examine the transfer of the Crimea to the Ukrainian republic in 1954. Deputies called on their Ukrainian counterparts also to reconsider the basis of the transfer by Khrushchev, of the peninsula, which at the time formed part of the Russian Federation, to the jurisdiction of the Ukrainian republic. (AFP)

## Khrushchev knew of 600,000 Stalin toll

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

MORE than 600,000 people were sentenced to death in the years between the end of the Russian civil war and the ascent to power of Nikita Khrushchev, according to figures published for the first time yesterday. Over the same period almost 2.5 million were sentenced to long terms in prison and labour camps, and 750,000 people were exiled.

Tass yesterday gave the figures from what it said was a secret report submitted to Khrushchev in 1954, the year after he became Soviet leader. The figures relate to the 1921-54 period and show that an average of 20,000 people were sentenced to death in the Soviet Union in each of those 33 years.

The news agency quoted the report as saying that 3,777,380 people were prosecuted for "counter-revolutionary activities" over that period, of whom 642,980 were sentenced to death, 2,369,220 to up to 25 years in prison or camps, and 765,180 to exile.

While the figures fall far short of the numbers commonly regarded as the "victims" of Stalin or the Soviet system, they provide a horrific record of those who were punished through judicial channels over that period for the single offence of opposing — or being suspected of opposing — the regime.

Overall figures for those who lost their lives as a direct or indirect result of Soviet communism — including collectivisation and the famine which followed, enforced industrialisation, as well as in the camps — range from 25 to 40 million.

The figures published yesterday come from archives newly opened after the takeover by the Russian authorities of former Soviet institutions, including the former interior ministry. Their disclosure at this juncture may, however, have a further purpose.

President Yeltsin of Russia passed a decree last month that merged the interior ministry and the KGB into a single law and order ministry. His decision was declared unconstitutional and he withdrew the decree.

Before that, however, staff of the two institutions and parts of the Russian media claimed that the new super-ministry was reminiscent of Stalin's NKVD and posed similar risks. The release of the figures may well have been intended as a further volley in the campaign against a merged ministry.

## Estonia prime minister resigns

BY ANATOL LIEVEN

THE fall of the Estonian government yesterday has brutally underlined both the dependence of the Baltic states on Russian oil, and the question of the future political role of the Russian minorities in the region.

The resignation of Edgar Savisaar, the prime minister, follows a severe food shortage which was precipitated by lack of fuel. As trade within the former Soviet Union moves to a hard currency basis, all three Baltic states face enormous balance of payments problems with Russia.

Lithuania and Latvia can ensure some Russian oil supplies because Lithuania controls an oil refinery which resupplies parts of Russia, and Latvia controls the oil pipeline which carries Russian exports to the West. Estonia, however, possesses no such levels.

Mr Savisaar was accused, even by his own ministers, of not foreseeing the oil crisis, and of relying on worthless contracts with Russia instead of determinedly asking for Western aid to pay for Western imports — although the critics sometimes forget that Estonia does not have the port facilities to bring in such imports in sufficient quantity. This charge became part of a general accusation against Mr Savisaar by right-wing parties that, as a former communist, he was too reliant on the old communist establishment and tended instinctively to look towards Moscow.

The Estonian parliament has set a two-week deadline to establish a new government. Mr Savisaar recommended as prime minister the parliament's chairman, and titular head of state, Arnold Ruutel, the former communist leader, saying that the new prime minister should be impartial politically. However, Mr Ruutel's candidacy is unlikely to be acceptable to the right.

## Georgian leaders tighten noose

FROM BRUCE CLARK IN SUKHUMI

THE authorities in Abkhazia, the northwestern region of Georgia, announced a security crackdown yesterday and it was widely speculated that a state of emergency would be introduced.

While the crackdown against "illegally held arms" was supposedly directed at all sides, it was almost certain to be interpreted as being aimed at supporters of Zviad Gamsakhurdia, the ousted president, who control Sukhumi airport, and a prestigious government dacha just outside the city.

In Poti, government soldiers fought gun battles with armed resistance groups yesterday. A government leader said 15 people were killed in the latest clashes and local officials reported at least two wounded in the Black Sea port, where rival forces fired at each other from opposite sides of the Rioni river.

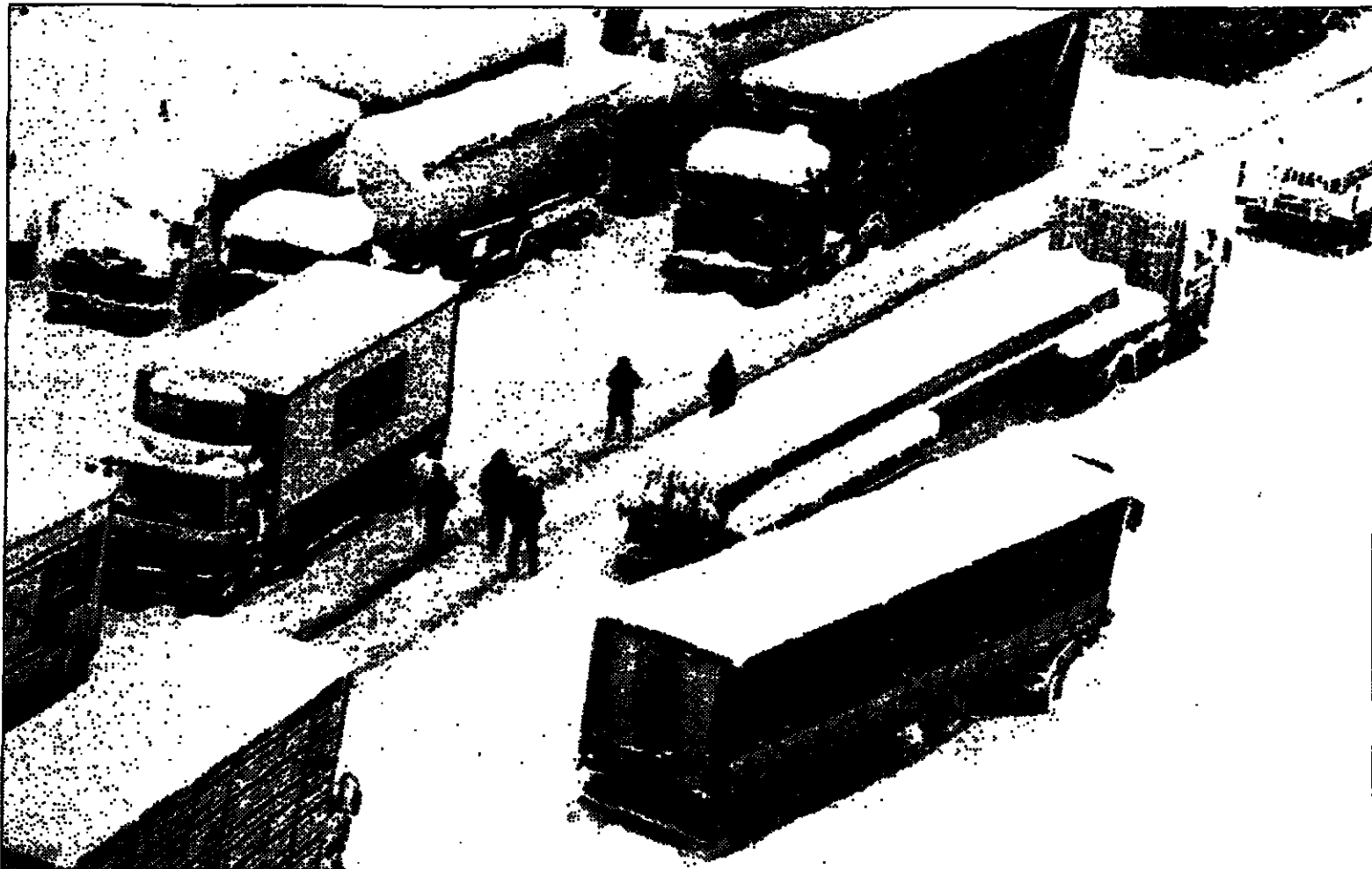
Officials of the self-governing Abkhazian region, where the ethnic Abkhazian community enjoys much-resented political power, acknowledged that extra-paramilitary forces had been flown into the area from southern Russia. Earlier, a close associate of Mr Gamsakhurdia, Nugzar Molodtsov, had raised the spirits of a 500-strong seafaring rally in the city by announcing that the ousted president "is in good health, is getting better all the time and sends you greetings". He denied rumours that Mr Gamsakhurdia was on a drip-feed.

In the snow-covered valleys of western Georgia, meanwhile, the sides seemed to be edging towards a compromise yesterday, though the opposition strongman, Jaba Ioseliani, was still preparing to use force if need be.

Missile cuts, page 1  
Russian realism, page 12  
Up for sale, page 14



Fighting on: a Danish air force Saab J35 jet, decorated with the squadron's emblem as a protest against closure of an airbase at Karup, overflies a training schooner



Weather-beaten: trapped lorries crowding the road between Toulouse and Carcassonne in southwestern France yesterday after some of the worst snowfalls in the area in recent years. Three people died and hundreds were stranded in the bitter cold. Some areas suffered over-

night snowfalls of between 20 and 50 inches, which brought the region to a standstill. The palm-lined beaches of Biarritz on the Atlantic coast were hit by their first blizzards for eight years. Electricity cuts have affected 50,000 people. One of those who died was a Peruvian

woman, aged 66, who suffocated after her car was buried in a snowdrift near Boulogne. A man was burnt to death when his house in St Cyprien caught fire after he lit a candle because of the electricity cuts, and a woman was killed when her car skidded on an icy road. (Reuters)

## Hungary manoeuvres to avoid trap set by Yugoslav collapse

Budapest is trying to bridge the ancient divide between East and West. President Goncz of Hungary talks about the difficulties to Anne McElvoy

ARPAD Goncz, the Hungarian president, could scarcely fail to be reminded of the closeness of the Yugoslav conflict. The entire wall of his reception room is filled with a frieze depicting Janos Hunyadi, the 15th-century Hungarian warrior repelling the Turkish advance before Belgrade, then on the southernmost edge of the Hungarian empire.

The rampaging Ottomans are but a distant echo these days, but the state of things in Belgrade remains a Hungarian preoccupation, even if the amiable president hurries to assure that Hungary is long past resorting to force to state its case.

The country, which has a 400-mile border with Serbia, recognised Croatia promptly following the European Community's lead. It is a move which complicates Hungary's already strained relations with Serbia, where there are more than 400,000 ethnic Hungarians with their minority cultural rights and education severely curtailed.

President Goncz admits that there is tension, albeit "verbal", with Slobodan Milosevic's Serbia. On the Serbian side, this verbal tension has taken the form of

accusations that Hungary is siding with the "old Axis powers" of Germany, Austria and Italy against Serbia. It is in Serbia's interests to make an enemy of Hungary and in Hungary's interests not to fall into this role. "Hungary is the country most affected by the conflict between Croatia and Serbia", Mr Goncz said. "We have vital economic links to Serbia, so recognition was certainly not intended to be an anti-Serbian move for us. It is simply a recognition of the way things are."

However, the country has had a thousand years of dealings with the southern Slav states and knows that its own future is affected by the turbulent Balkans. "We have no interest in having a bleeding and desperate Croatia on our border, nor a bleeding and desperate Serbia," the president insisted.

The country is faced with a difficult balancing act. It is feeling the strain of economic transition as it tries to

measure up to the standards of the West. At the same time, it casts nervous glances over its shoulder to see what Serbia, Croatia and Ukraine are up to. Yet Hungarian enthusiasm for a new start is complete and uninhibited.

President Goncz talks in the up-beat, cheerfully insistent tones of a team coach at half-time, alternatively praising and bullying his people to motivate them through



Goncz: verbal tension with Serbian leader

the hard times. A writer and translator who was imprisoned after the 1956 uprising, President Goncz labours in the shadows of Vladimir Havel and Lech Walesa in Central Europe's fame stakes. But his gentle manner and conciliatory message have made him a popular figure at home. As a liberal, he has had a sometimes strained relationship with Jozsef Antall, his conservative prime minister.

Mr Antall favoured a law enabling those Hungarians who helped suppress the 1956 uprising to be tried for treason. Parliament passed it but President Goncz refused to sign it and referred it to the constitutional court for a ruling as to whether activities such as those of the secret police could be declared treasonous in retrospect. A decision is due at the end of the month.

1956 remains a deep trauma and the appetite for revenge is still strong among those who lived through the events. Once again, President Goncz is trying to steer a course between parties and interest. "We should not repeat the mistakes of the previous regime by resorting to the state as an instrument of revenge," he said.

## Jet lacked warning system

London: Air Inter, whose A320 twin jet crashed in France killing 87 on Monday, is the only airline which has not fitted a ground proximity warning system to tell the pilot he was heading for disaster (Harvey Elliott writes).

The instrument is mandatory for all British commercial aircraft but it is not compulsory on aircraft registered in France.

Airbus A320s experienced difficulties approaching the runway at Strasbourg and got false readings from electronic signals beamed from the ground, crash investigators learned yesterday.

## Danes to vote

Copenhagen: Denmark will hold a referendum on European political union, Poul Schluter, the prime minister, has announced. At the European Community summit, Denmark agreed to closer union within the EC, provided that it could hold referendums on political union and a single currency later.

## General sacked

Islamabad: General Hamid Gul, a senior Pakistani military officer who has gained support from Muslim extremist leaders for his fundamentalist views, has been dismissed for refusing to accept an appointment as head of an engineering complex.

## Kurds raided

Ankara: Turkish aircraft have been attacking Kurdish rebels in southeastern Turkey for two weeks, a senior officer said. The attacks appeared part of a drive to weaken the guerrillas before they launch a spring offensive. (Reuters)

## Naval pullout

Hanoi: Russia will send a military delegation to Hanoi in April or May to negotiate a pullout from Cam Ranh Bay, and will withdraw all former Soviet military advisers and dependents, a Russian diplomat said. (Reuters)

## Estate agents

Berlin: More than two million claims have been filed from people seeking to recover real estate and other property in eastern Germany. (AFP)

## Serb squatters home in on Croat town

FROM TIM JUDAH IN ILOK, CROATIA

HOUSE-HUNTING is a haphazard affair in the eastern Croatian town of Ilok these days. Rattling the gate of a locked house, a Serb refugee said: "You don't get a key, you just break in."

A Croat woman resident said: "This is robbery, they are settling this place by force, and we are frightened. They call in the middle of the night, they threaten, and say, 'Why haven't you gone yet? If you identified me,' she added, 'they'd kill me for telling you this.'"

Croats who remain in the town on the banks of the Danube, 70 miles west of Belgrade, occupied by the Yugoslav army, say they are prevented from leaving, except if they are going for good, and they say they are

even prevented from making contact with their families who have fled. Meanwhile, refugee Serbs, who want only to return to their own homes, are beginning to occupy empty Croat houses in the town.

On October 17 last year, a deal between the local authorities and the Yugoslav army saved Ilok from being destroyed, like the nearby regional capital, Vukovar. About 3,000 Croats voluntarily left the town fearing that unruly Serb militias would move in behind the army, killing and looting as they came.

"They thought they were going for the weekend," one man who stayed said. "I did not expect that Serb refugees who had fled from

their own homes in other parts of the republic would soon be moving into theirs."

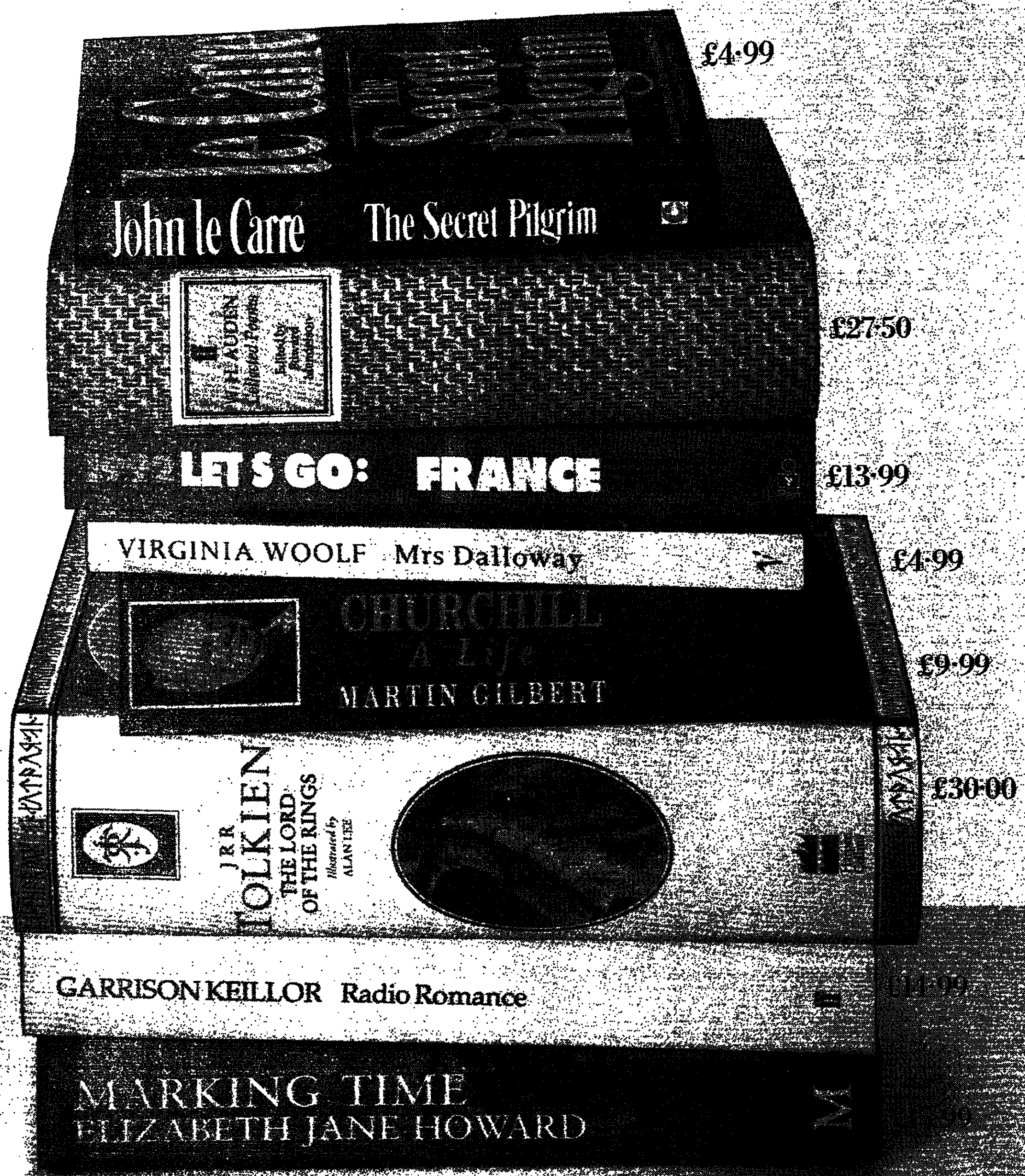
About 3,000 have settled," Vladislav Stepanec, the army's local information officer, said. "We made a list of empty houses and gave it to the new civilian authorities." He added: "They are in charge of distribution and, although the army has the last say, in all matters here you had better go and ask them about it."

But a visit to the Ilok offices of the self-proclaimed Serbian government of Slavonia, Baranja, and Western Sren proved disappointing. "There is no one here today," a surly secretary said, adding: "I am not expecting anyone."

About a quarter of a million Serb refugees from all parts of Croatia are passing the winter in temporary accommodation. The Serb authorities in areas they control in eastern Croatia have encouraged them to come to settle to consolidate places such as Ilok. Draconian catch-all laws have been passed to prevent Croat residents from returning.

Their need for settlers is clear. Out of a prewar population of 7,500 in Ilok, only 500, according to the army, were Serbs. The second largest community after the Croats were about 1,900 Slovaks, the descendants of agricultural workers who came looking for employment in the region's vineyards in the 19th century and who remain today.





A discreet reminder from  
Waterstone's that our prices, like our bookshops,  
are second to none.



Zairea  
crush  
again!

shs kill  
in attack

Washir  
restric





## Zairean soldiers crush mutiny against Mobutu

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN KINSHASA

TROOPS loyal to President Mobutu of Zaire put down a mutiny early yesterday, leaving two people dead. Rebel soldiers, whom officials said came from the 312th battalion based at the Seta training camp for airborne troops south of Kinshasa, had seized the radio station here overnight, broadcasting calls for the resignation of President Mobutu, Nguzi Karl-Bond, the prime minister, and his government.

They also wanted the resumption of a national conference on democracy which Mr Nguzi had cancelled at the weekend, leading to street protests and widespread demonstrations among opposition parties. The defence minister, Ngbanda Nzambo Ko Atumba, said the rebel "adventurers" fled from the

radio station before loyalist troops moved in, but "some of them fell into the net of the security forces". The rebels said officially to number 29, used a Coca-Cola delivery lorry to get on to the premises. One mutineer and one civilian guard were killed during the operation, the radio said when it resumed normal broadcasting under the control of the military.

Mr Ngbanda said that the rebels had forced a military journalist to read their statements over the radio, but dismissed their demands as "insanities". In working-class areas of Kinshasa, residents danced in the streets and turned their radios up to full blast during the occupation of the radio station, according to witnesses. Camp Seta, close to Njili airport, saw the

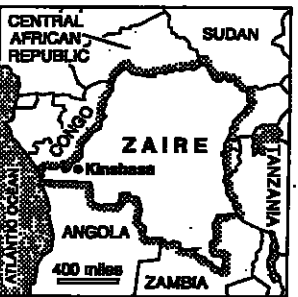
start of rioting by disgruntled troops late in September last year, which grew into pillage and havoc. That level of unrest led to military intervention by France and Belgium, the former colonial power, which evacuated hundreds of foreign nationals.

Central Kinshasa was almost deserted yesterday morning, apart from military checkpoints outside key buildings and at main road junctions which did not appear to have been reinforced. Witnesses said that outlying parts of the capital had also become very quiet.

The French government said yesterday, in a first reaction to the mutiny, that "the resumption of the national conference is the only way to restore calm" in Zaire. A day earlier, the 12 nations of the European Community suspended aid in protest at Mr Nguzi's decision to call off the debate.

Mr Nguzi said the conference could lead to tribal warfare and the partition of the country. His decision came after pro-government delegates made an unsuccessful attempt to change what they called the "geopolitical" representation of the conference, arguing that some Zairean states were favoured unduly.

In their broadcast, the mutineers called on France, Belgium and the United States to intervene to "prevent civil war" in Zaire. The takeover of the radio station was said to



be the work of only 29 soldiers, but is likely nevertheless to make the few foreigners who stayed on after the September riots rethink their position, observers said.

Zaire, which is rich in mineral and other natural resources, has been ruled with an iron fist by President Mobutu for 26 years. The national conference, which began in August but has been suspended, has been marked by increasingly strong opposition to the president.

Leading article, page 15



Flag day: an activist of the African National Congress waving the anti-apartheid black organisation's flag from the equestrian statue of Louis Botha, the leader of Afrikanerdom during the Boer war, in front of the parliament building in Cape Town yesterday

## Whites prepare to bid parliament farewell

FROM GAVIN BELL IN CAPE TOWN

AFRICA'S last white parliament convenes in a splendid colonial building beneath Table Mountain today for what may be its last session.

In his opening address, President de Klerk is expected to outline proposals for sharing power with the black majority, thereby sounding the death knell for the racist institution that has governed South Africa since the country's birth in 1910. As he delivers his speech, thousands of blacks mobilised by the African National Congress will march near the parliament building to demand a prompt transfer of power to

an interim government and a constituent assembly.

Mr de Klerk has conceded the principle of sharing power and is likely to elaborate on his plans for bringing blacks into government at legislative and executive levels as quickly as possible. The consensus is that an interim arrangement, pending a post-apartheid constitution and general elections, should be approved in time for blacks to take their places in parliament in a year's time. The present tri-cameral system, instituted in 1983, is reserved for whites, Coloureds and Indians.

Members of the ruling Nat-

ional party say the president cannot be expected to match the drama of his two preceding opening addresses, when he announced the "unbanning" of the ANC and the abolition of apartheid legislation. But Mr de Klerk may be relied on to produce at least one more rabbit out of his hat — the concept of a multiracial interim government.

A signal of parliament's waning authority was an announcement this week that from February 10 it would not sit on Mondays and Tuesdays to allow members to participate in negotiations with the ANC and others.

With the exception of the far-right Conservative party, every parliamentary party has representatives on committees established by the negotiating forum, the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (Codesa). Parliament remains the sovereign legislative body, but it is bound formally to liaise with Codesa on any important new laws.

Steve Tshwete, a senior member of the ANC executive committee, summed up the ANC's views on the matter: "It is time for the people to demand, as did Oliver Cromwell of the Long Parliament in Britain: 'In the name of God, go!'"

## Japan makes U-turn to buy from Detroit

FROM JOANNA PITMAN IN TOKYO AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

IT MAY not make much of a dent in the enormous Japanese trade deficit with the United States, but Japan's parliament is to buy two American cars.

The planned purchase of two Buick Park Avenues, made at the request of the ruling Liberal Democratic party, is to encourage the import of American cars, a parliamentary spokesman said yesterday. What is more, parliament later will buy two or three more American cars, he said.

Diplomatically ignoring the fact that Detroit's products are likely to be too wide to drive down many of Tokyo's narrow streets, the government's investment in the limousines, each worth \$44,000 (£24,000), could backfire as it offers insultingly small change for America.

The news comes after Yoshio Sakurachi, the veteran speaker of the chamber, ignited a Japanese-American dispute by saying that American workers are lazy and their products of poor quality. The remarks brought a hail of denunciations from American political and business leaders.

As a new session of the Diet opens today, Kiichi Miyazawa faces his toughest test since assuming the

position of prime minister last November. With his leadership abilities in serious doubt, he confronts the prospect of an unruly barrage of opposition questions on a series of political corruption scandals involving his close political allies and members of the Liberal Democratic party faction that he heads.

Meticulously for Mr Miyazawa, Japan's opposition parties are effectively impotent in the political scheme of things, since they have not held power for more than 36 years and appear to have no likelihood of doing so. His more serious worry, however, is the fact that once the session gets underway next week, his qualities as a head of state will come under severe scrutiny from the liberal party's real power behind the throne.

Noboru Takeshita, the former prime minister, and Shin Kanemaru, the deputy president of the party, will spend the next few weeks judging whether Mr Miyazawa is fit to continue heading the party. Mr Miyazawa has also watched his popularity plummet in the eyes of an electorate that suspects him of being not only feeble and inept but also corrupt.

## Sikhs kill Hindus in attack on bus

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

SIKH gunmen shot dead three Hindus travelling in a convoy of buses through Punjab yesterday on their way to join a mass march to the Kashmir valley. The killings sharply increased religious tensions as troops and paramilitary police tightened security in the two northern Indian states.

The incident, in which the driver of the bus also died and 30 people were injured, came a day after the government gave a warning that there could be serious trouble once the marchers, who set out from southern India last month, reached Punjab. It had earlier appealed to the hardline Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), the official opposition in parliament, to call off the procession because it could spark renewed religious clashes throughout the north.

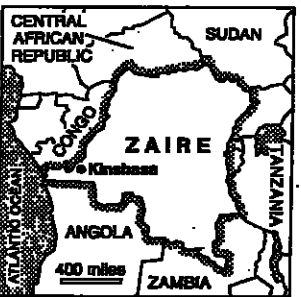
The victims were travelling in a seven-bus convoy when they came under attack from Sikh separatists using automatic rifles. Several leading members of the BJP were in the vehicles. The executive of the party, which is calling its procession *ekta yatra* (journey of unity), meets in the Kashmiri city of Jammu today to decide its response to government requests to call off the procession.

The *ekta yatra* set off with the aim of highlighting the

alleged threat to the unity of India which is posed by Kashmiri separatists. The present plan is for the procession to travel from Jammu to Srinagar, the capital of the predominantly Muslim Kashmir valley. The security forces have said that they will not be able to guarantee the safety of those taking part.

The procession is headed by Murlidhar Joshi, the president of the BJP, who plans to raise the Indian flag at Lal Chowk in the centre of Srinagar on Sunday, an area regarded as a stronghold of armed militants. There were signs last night that the party might agree on measures to defuse tensions rather than create another crisis across northern India. A *rath yatra* (chariot journey) by the BJP in late 1990 led to widespread violence across the north, in which hundreds of people, mostly Muslims, were killed.

Mr Joshi, who was further back in the heavily guarded main part of the procession when the Sikh attack was launched, continued his anti-Pakistan tirade yesterday. He said that Islamabad was "hobnobbing" with central Asian states which possessed nuclear weapons. Islamic fundamentalism threatened world peace, he said, and India should immediately manufacture its own bomb.



be the work of only 29 soldiers, but is likely nevertheless to make the few foreigners who stayed on after the September riots rethink their position, observers said.

Zaire, which is rich in mineral and other natural resources, has been ruled with an iron fist by President Mobutu for 26 years. The national conference, which began in August but has been suspended, has been marked by increasingly strong opposition to the president.

Leading article, page 15

## Priests say police ignored axe gang

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

TWO Roman Catholic priests have accused South African police officers of standing by and allowing a group of about 20 men, armed with pangas and axes, to board a black commuter train at a Johannesburg station on Tuesday night. For the police, Captain Eugene Opperman said that the claims were being investigated, but that it

was not an offence merely to possess a dangerous weapon.

The allegations came as police reported yesterday that during the previous 24 hours nine people had been killed, either hacked to death or thrown off moving trains, in the Johannesburg area. During the past 18 months, at least 146 people have been killed.

## Washington to impose tough restrictions on aid to Israel

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

THE Bush administration last night was expected to set out tough, new guidelines on economic assistance to Israel, in an effort to allay Arab fears that it is helping to fund Jewish settlements in the occupied territories.

The unprecedented restrictions, on Israel's request for \$10 billion (£5.5 billion) in loan guarantees over five years for absorbing immigrants, were due to be presented to Zalman Shoval, the Israeli envoy to Washington, when he met James Baker.

depend on the safeguards built into the loan guarantee package to ensure that the money was not spent in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. A decision on whether the Palestinians will attend the next round of talks, the multilateral conference in Moscow next week, is likely to be decided in Morocco today at a meeting of Arab foreign ministers.

"We are not interested in interfering in American policy or in American-Israeli relations," she said at a press conference. "But we are interested in anything that affects our lives and our rights."

She accused the Israeli government of demanding unconditional assistance so that the funds could be diverted to help it meet the cost of its rapid expansion of settlements in the territories. Peace Now, an Israeli left-wing monitoring group, on Wednesday estimated that Israel spent \$1.1 billion in housing and infrastructure last year alone and built more than 13,000 units on occupied land, an increase of 60 per cent.

However, in a more conciliatory approach, Mrs Ashrawi said: "If the United States can manage to get provisos and to get conditions and to get commitments that would eliminate entirely any possibility of these funds being used to subsidise the occupation or settlement activity... then that is not our business."

Yitzhak Shamir, the prime minister, whose government has already included this year's first American instalment in its budget, has vowed to continue the settlement construction campaign, but has also appealed to Wash-

ington on humanitarian grounds to help the Jewish state through a period of economic difficulty as it attempts to absorb thousands of immigrants from the former Soviet Union.

Israel's poor economic performance, particularly rising unemployment, has already slowed the rate of immigration, which in the first three weeks of this month stood at only 3,000. In addition, a poll released yesterday revealed that the vast majority of Israelis in Tel Aviv, about half the country's population,

do not want to live in the occupied territories. The poll found that only 0.9 per cent would consider moving to cheaper, but potentially more dangerous, housing in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The same survey in 1983 found that 10 per cent were willing to move there.

In the second attack to curb mounting guerrilla attacks this year, Israeli helicopter gunships yesterday blasted positions of Lebanese Muslim guerrillas in south Lebanon, wounding at least one gunman.

## Call to prayer falls foul of Holy City authorities

## Jews sound off at Muslims

The volume of the dawn appeal to worship has become a political issue in the Muslim-Jewish confrontation in Jerusalem, Richard Beeston reports

THERE are few sounds in the Middle East quite so romantic as the dawn call of a muezzin calling Muslim worshippers to their first prayer of the day. But like any other religious manifestation in the city holy to the three great monotheistic faiths, even that seemingly simple act yesterday became embroiled in the latest political row pitting Jew against Muslim.

In an unprecedented decision, the Jerusalem magistrature court yesterday found the muezzin of the Sheikh Jarrah mosque next to the American Colony hotel in Arab East Jerusalem guilty of "making unreasonable noise" and causing distress to

Jewish neighbours a few hundred yards away in the Israeli half of the city. The court fined the defendant £55 and was bound over in the sum of £500 that he would not repeat the offence within the next three years.

The conviction was the result of a police investigation into allegations that the tiny mosque, with notoriously powerful loudspeakers attached to its minaret, deliber-

ately turned up the volume of its prayer call five times a day across the old "green line" towards the Jewish residential districts, also at night and during the Jewish Sabbath.

The Jewish Orthodox communities alleged that the volume had increased substantially since the Palestinian intifada began four years ago, and police armed with sound-monitoring equipment found the muezzin guilty of breaking the city's noise regulations. "In addition to Jews, we received complaints about the noise from Muslims and Christians as well, although they were too afraid to give

their names," said Amir Cheshin, the head of the Jerusalem municipality's department of Arab affairs.

However, his comments will do little to ease Muslim anger, particularly since the ruling was made on the same day that Islamic leaders from around the world gathered in Marrakesh to meet King Hassan of Morocco to discuss ways of preserving Jerusalem's Muslim heritage.

The defendant in yesterday's case said he would appeal against the decision and ask Wafk, the Muslim religious administration, to intervene on his behalf. "The city is so sensitive that the court is no place to settle problems like this," said Moshe Amirav, a city councillor. "These arguments should be settled by agreement or else you will lead the city to an explosive situation."

ALGIERS NOTEBOOK by John Phillips

## When happiness is an outside line

Foreign journalists flooded into the St George hotel in Algeria when the country's first legislative elections were cancelled last week. The hotel, which for a time was Churchill's headquarters during the second world war, has a tranquil garden, with palm trees and exotic flowers, laid out on a hill overlooking the Mediterranean sea that seems to belong to a different age.

But when hundreds of correspondents tried to call their offices, the hotel switchboard jammed. A few reporters, frustrated at waiting up to three hours for a telephone line, moved to the less chic Aletti hotel, situated on the seaside Boulevard Che Guevara overlooking the port of Algiers.

Rooms at the hotel, which served as headquarters for the international press during Algeria's war of independence, had no direct-dial

telephones and no foreign beer in the mini-bars. But the hard-working switchboard staff invariably managed to get reporters' calls out within minutes.

Perhaps their industriousness was due to the aspirations of Abdelkader Benallague, the hotel's manager, who stood as an independent candidate in the Algerian parliamentary elections. Guests discovered he had inserted electoral propaganda for himself among the stationery in their rooms.

The art-deco table lights in the Aletti restaurant and the battered lift still driven manually by a bell boy recall another epoch immortalized by Edward Behr, the veteran correspondent for *Time* and *Newsweek*, in his memoirs *Anyone Here Has Been Raped and Speaks English?*

Behr recounted reaching

for a meat cleaver when angry OAS pious nois burst into the Aletti dining room to protest at what they saw as coverage favourable to Algerian guerrillas. Violence was averted when the hotel's proprietor at the time, Mr

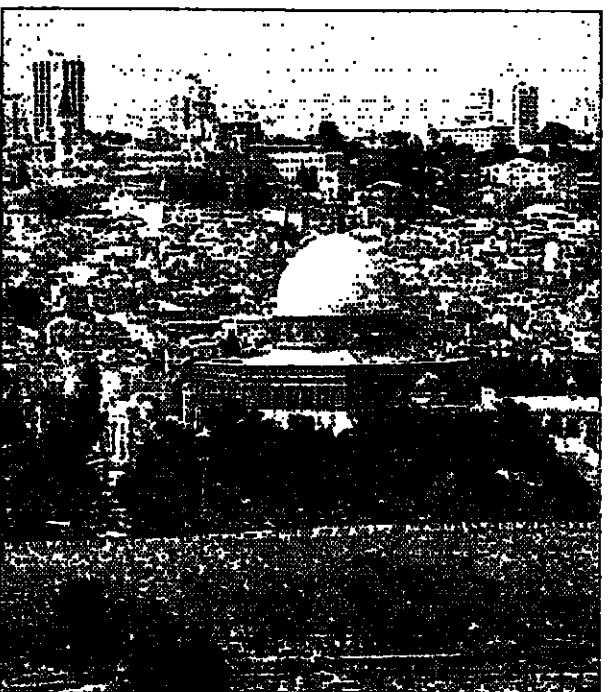


Aletti, intervened. Today windows in the hotel rooms rarely seal hermetically, but for 550 dinars (£13) a night, it seems churlish to complain. Value for money evi-

dently is also a priority for management of the national carrier, Air Algérie. Not all the jets in the airline's fleet are the most modern. The pilot on a flight from Paris on Christmas Day, however, obligingly waited for all the passengers who had reserved seats to check in and embark before taking off. Many of the travellers were returning to their homes to vote.

An earlier Air France flight was over-booked. The disappointed would-be passengers who were turned away included the French widow of an Algerian man whose coffin had to leave without her.

Muslim fundamentalist influences have yet to have any discernible effect on Air Algérie's cuisine. Christmas lunch, served at 30,000ft above the Mediterranean, included lobster, turkey and champagne.



Sound faith: mosques, synagogues and churches dominate life in Jerusalem



Ashrawi: taking a more conciliatory approach

the American Secretary of State. The request for aid was made almost a year ago but delayed twice because of concern that any additional financial assistance to Israel, already the largest recipient of American aid worth \$3 billion annually, could threaten Arab participation in the peace process.

Hanan Ashrawi, the Palestinian spokeswoman, said yesterday that continued Palestinian involvement in the American-led initiative would



GALLERIES: OXFORD

# Uncle Joe made them see red

Now that so many colossal bronze effigies of Stalin have been toppled, battered and dismembered, Russians are no longer obliged to shudder at the overbearing presence of tarnished heroes exhorting them to strive and sacrifice for the Motherland. Such rhetoric is irretrievably discredited.

But only 60 years ago a secret meeting at Maxim Gorky's flat was told, by Comrade Stalin himself, that the Soviet writer should transform himself into "an engineer of the human soul". This ominous phrase became the corner-stone of Socialist Realism, a doctrine so tyrannous and cruelly implemented that Russian artists are still struggling to recover from its crushing legacy.

Nobody would guess, from the apparent benevolence of the paintings assembled at the Oxford Museum of Modern Art for *Engenders of the Human Soul: Soviet Socialist Realist Painting 1930-1970*, that Stalin's *apparatchiks* stamped out any attempt to deviate from the propagandist norm. Images of the leader abound, and they promote him as an avuncular figure whose gestures suggest a limitless generosity of spirit.

In reality, Stalin was a paranoid mass-murderer, who thought nothing of exterminating artists courageous enough to resist his decrees. But no hint of that thuggishness disturbs the magnanimous portraits displayed here. Nor do their makers dare to disclose that he was a squarish, pock-marked and had a withered arm.

Even in Vrubel's Mosaic's painting of Stalin leading a demonstration in Batumi as early as 1912, the myth-making does not falter. Bearded and gaunt, the young insurgent bears scant resemblance to the rosy-cheeked paterfamilias of later years. Already, however, he possesses a forcefulness appropriate to a Man of Destiny.

Striding at the head of a crowd who brandish prophetic red flags, Stalin becomes without undue effort the cynosure for his fellow protesters. A bourgeois lady on the edge of the picture-space leans unsteadily against her companion as she gazes, askance, at this fearless paragon of dissent.

The other portraits, dating from the era of Stalin's absolute supremacy, dispense with the idea that he could engender hostility or alarm. *Leader, Teacher and Friend* is the risible title attached to Grigori Shegal's 1937 painting. Stalin

## Richard Cork on a show which reveals the feebleness that afflicted Soviet art under the influence of Stalin's censors

moves among the admiring delegates at a conference like a kindly, unassuming host. The grandeur is reserved for Lenin, looming over the hall from an outsize niche behind. He appears to bestow an ideological blessing on his successor, whereas the truth is that Lenin never insisted on the political correctness of art.

Although Socialist Realism owes its theoretical origins to his 1905 essay, "On Party Organisation and Party Literature", Lenin allowed the pre-revolutionary vanguard to continue as long as he lived. His minister of education, Anatoli Lunacharski, was a model of enlightened patronage compared with the aesthetic bullying initiated by Stalin's son-in-law Andrei Zhdanov. Ranting at the first All-Union Congress of Soviet Writers in 1934, this reptilian secretary of the Communist party declared that "we must depict reality in its revolutionary development".

His weasel words masked a cold determination to eradicate anyone harbouring thoughts of questioning, let alone revolutionising, the orthodoxy fostered by Stalinist terror-tactics. Perhaps mercifully, the Oxford survey does not linger on the often pathetic work produced by former innovators as the witch-hunt intensified.

But a showcase is devoted to a montage produced in the early 1930s by Lissitzky, who had once been numbered among the most adventurous and incisive of the Russian avant-garde. *The Current Is Switched On*, proclaims the title, and images of searchlights are juxtaposed with a monumental hand, placed at a dynamic angle, pulling a lever. Despite its assumed energy, the result is a humdrum affair reduced to banality and bathos by the predictable insertion of Stalin's head.

However much Lissitzky was forced to dilute his former experimentalism, he did stop short of the abject paintings assembled nearby. Landed with the irksome task of portraying Stalin at the 18th party congress in 1939, Aleksandr

Gerasimov concocted an absurd image of a grinning leader who warily beckons us towards his paper-laden desk.

To our eyes, the picture seems transparently bogus. We know that Stalin, beset by insecurities, rejected openness in favour of a defensive strategy based on betrayal and denunciation. But to the nation which endured his regime, the truth was far less easy to discern.

These seemingly fatuous celebrations of paternalistic leadership had an insidious effect. For the Russian people wanted to believe that the man presiding over their fate was as principled as the saintly figure dominating Fyodor Shurpin's 1948 portrait, who stands in an unblemished white uniform as dawn begins to illuminate a field peppered with purposeful ranks of tractors.

Whenever painters ventured into those stretches of crop-laden earth, they discovered peasants smiling so rigidly that their mouths must have ached with the muscular strain involved. The dogged reality of farm labour is nowhere to be seen, and in its place "friends" teach one another how to steer a mighty harvesting machine.

Even the most strenuous of five-year plans must have rest-periods. However, and Aleksei Vasiliev shows the perpetually glowing workers seated beside a melon and pitcher. *They are Writing about Us in Pravda*, runs the title, helpfully explaining why the labourers stare with stereotyped delight at the young woman reading from the newspaper in her lap.

The styles adopted in these famous scenes are irredeemably debased. Pretending that all the most vital developments in modern art had never occurred, Stalin's favoured painters relied on weary academic formulae which the Impressionists had discredited in the previous century.

Towards the end of Stalin's reign, all the lies about sun-dappled productivity are interspersed with glimpses of more authentic feeling. The three robust nudes in Gerasimov's *A Russian Communal Bath* are handled with a gusto healthily removed from his earlier portrait of Stalin at the party congress. Hagiography gives way to a direct, sensuous apprehension of human flesh.

Gerasimov's unexpected outburst of painterly flair made me all the more angry about the abuse of talent so evident elsewhere. What



False note? Gelli Korzhnev's *Anxiety*, 1965-68, features "a girl with the familiar smile"

might some of these artists have achieved if their integrity had been fostered, rather than broken on the wheel of Zhdanov's remorseless censorship?

Tentative beginnings at an answer are provided in the show's last section, where a post-Stalinist thaw permits a range of alternative visions. The dictator himself is finally shown in a red coffin, bedecked with conspicuously festive flowers which the painter, Mikael Abdullou, must have regarded as a declaration of joy.

Hesitant flirtations with the Impressionist heresy soon followed. And Dmitri Zhukovskii caught the emergent mood of liberation in an oil sketch for *The Bridge Builders*, where soldiers doff their uniforms and gambol by the water's edge.

Old habits could not be cast aside so blithely. As late as the mid-1960s, Gelli Korzhnev was still prepared to make a nonsense of a picture called *Anxiety* by placing, in the foreground, a girl with the familiar smile stretching her lips. After the Hermitage Museum's Post-Impressionist holdings had been retrieved from the cellars where Stalin banished them, Eduard Bragovskii felt able to invest his *Logging on the Veltuga* with a dash of Gauguinesque mystery. Mai Danisig attempted a similar rosette-morphism in *A Sunny Day*, where the housewife hanging out washing is given an exotic allure with the help of the clothes-peg slung like a garland around her neck.

For all its flamboyance, Danisig's immense painting still ad-

heres to the hoary idea that Russian life must be presented as a vigorous assertion of communist triumphalism in action. There is only one painter daring to offer a corrective to all the optimism: Erik Bulatov, whose youthful *At the Spring* is preoccupied with lassitude, alienation and melancholy.

The year is 1957, and decades had to pass before Bulatov could be openly hailed as a painter who consistently subverted the pictorial bromides of his age. But here, in this quiet, immature painting, there is at least a hint that the ice-floes of cultural repression might one day dissolve altogether.

Engineers of the Human Soul: Soviet Socialist Realist Painting 1930-1970, at the Oxford Museum of Modern Art, (0865 722733) until March 15

● **MARK GERTLER:** The centenary of Gertler's birth fell in December 1991, so this centenary exhibition is prompter than it seems. Gertler was in his lifetime the most famous of a generation of Anglo-Jewish artists which also included Bomberg, Rosenberg and Meninsky. But in recent years he has been overshadowed by the growing reputation of Bomberg. This show, which includes paintings and drawings from the whole of his relatively short and undeniably stormy career, should help to redress the balance, by showing an artist variable indeed, but at his best as powerful as any of his peers.

Camden Arts Centre, Arkwright Road, London NW3 (071 435 2643). Tues-Thurs 12-5pm, Fri-Sun 12-5pm, until March 8.

● **NEW GERMAN PHOTOGRAPHY:** Much of the photography given Krupp Fellowship Awards in 1988-89 expresses itself through the suggestive qualities of the deliberately flat and non-committal. Rudolf Bonnier is something of an exception, with his colour-saturated images of nuclear plants, but Volker Heinz's portraits of outsiders and Joachim Brohm's images of roads and verges leave most of the work up to the spectators. Even Matthias Wehrer's sculptural installation of enlarged heads from European bank notes needs determined reading.

Photographers' Gallery, 8 Great Newport Street, London WC2 (071-831 1772). Tues-Sat 11am-7pm, Sun 12-6pm, until March 12.

● **HISTORY AND IDENTITY:** The Commonwealth Institute is coordinating its artistic programmes for this year under the general title of "New Worlds", examining the varying relationships between individual Commonwealth countries and the European world view. This first exhibition examines the question through the work of seven artists from Britain's African and Caribbean communities, all concerned in some way with defining their dual cultural heritage. Four were born abroad, three in Britain. The concerns of all are complex and sophisticated, transcending the picturesque. Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, London W8 (071-603 4535). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm, until April 12.

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

ARTS REVIEWS  
Theatre, Opera and Music  
page 18

## WINNER GOLDEN GLOBE AWARD BEST DIRECTOR - Oliver Stone

"TERRIFIC. UNMISSABLE. High voltage intrigue and drama."  
- DAILY MAIL

"EXPLOSIVE. BREATHTAKING. Stunningly powerful."  
- DAILY EXPRESS

"ELECTRIFYING. A Knockout. Breathless. Enthralling. Sensational. Terrific."  
- TIME

"STUNNING. POWERFUL. REMARKABLE. It holds the audience rapt in its grip."  
- NEWSWEEK

"MASTERFUL FILMMAKING, A STAGGERING ACHIEVEMENT. It keeps you on the edge of your seat. Kevin Costner is excellent."  
- GOOD MORNING AMERICA, ABC-TV

KEVIN COSTNER  
as OLIVER STONE  
**JFK** 15

The Story That Won't Go Away

PRESENTED BY TRISTAR PRESENTS  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH LE STUDIUM CANAL+ INCORPORATED AND ALCON ENTERTAINMENT CORPORATION AND AS A KODAK PRESENTATION AN OLIVER STONE FILM KEVIN COSTNER PRESENTS  
TOMMY LEE JONES LARRY BISHOP GARY OLDMAN MICHAEL DOHERTY PAT O'CONNOR AND ROSS SPENCER  
DIRECTED BY OLIVER STONE  
CASTING BY JILL GARDNER AND  
EDITED BY JILL GARDNER  
PRODUCTION DESIGNER JIM HARRIS  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS OLIVER STONE AND ZACHARY SELLAN  
PRODUCED BY OLIVER STONE AND ZACHARY SELLAN  
SCREENPLAY BY OLIVER STONE  
DIRECTED BY OLIVER STONE  
MUSIC BY DAVID JULYAN  
COSTUME DESIGNER JILL GARDNER  
HAIR AND MAKEUP BY JILL GARDNER  
PRODUCTION OFFICE OLIVER STONE PRODUCTIONS  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS OLIVER STONE AND ZACHARY SELLAN  
PRODUCED BY OLIVER STONE AND ZACHARY SELLAN  
DIRECTED BY OLIVER STONE

**STARTS TODAY** Empire  
BARBICAN CINEMA 2 071-431 8971  
CANNON CINEMA 10 370 2656  
CORONET NOTTING HILL GATE 727 6705  
J.W. 981 882 0051  
PACIFIC CINEMA 10 370 2656  
SCREEN ON THE GREEN SLEIGHTON 226 3638  
THEATRE ROYAL 020 4 62 52  
Trocadero 1130  
Morton Grahame Major  
PACIFIC CINEMA 10 370 2656  
SCREEN ON THE GREEN SLEIGHTON 226 3638  
THEATRE ROYAL 020 4 62 52  
Trocadero 1130

AND ALL OVER THE COUNTRY

## CLASSICAL MUSIC If it's Friday, this must be London

### Richard Morrison joined the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra for part of a whistle-stop tour of European cities



Drums roll for take-off: RPO trumpet being loaded

In the hallowed words of football coaches all over America: when the going gets tough, the tough get going. The going has been tough for the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra recently. All British orchestras have been alarmed by the recession's effect on the box office, but the RPO has also been involved in an imbroglio with the Arts Council over a stunning 12.9 per cent cut in its grant. It was the only major arts body to have its public subsidy reduced for next season.

Now it has got going with admirable resilience. After its Festival Hall concert in London tonight the orchestra and its music director Vladimir Ashkenazy will almost have completed a remarkable tour, encompassing all 12 capitals in the European Community and a couple of other cities besides: 110 musicians, criss-crossing Europe 14 times in 20 days.

This is not only a fitting fanfare to 1992 (the orchestra claims to be the first ensemble ever to have visited all the EC capitals in one mighty odyssey), but also the best possible riposte to the Arts Council: if Britain will not properly support us, the musicians are implicitly saying, the rest of the world will. Much the same mood was apparent last year in another London orchestra, the Philharmonia, when it announced the astonishing news that it was becoming the resident ensemble at the Théâtre de Châtelet in Paris.

"We could work 12 months of the year abroad, if we wanted," says Bruce Jefferson, the RPO spokesman.

pointing out that the orchestra has toured Australia, South America and Europe in the last 12 months. But he admits that his players would be unhappy if the RPO's British work, and particularly its Festival Hall series, was further eroded. That is what the row with the Arts Council is about.

From the Arts Council the RPO will receive £400,000 for a whole year. From the British Council for this single three-week tour it will get £100,000. Such are the vagaries of public subsidy.

Celner has also contributed substantial sponsorship; even so, the RPO will not

Vaughan Williams, and most of the rest have already heard Britten's *Sinfonia da Requiem* — music that Ashkenazy advocates with great zest.

Originally the intention was that each capital should also hear music by a native of that country. But the spirit of musicalological adventure must have wobbled at the idea of finding suitable Belgian and Portuguese crowd-pullers, and been extinguished utterly by the daunting prospect of Luxembourg, because the plan was abandoned.

Even the Spanish connection that I heard in Madrid on Sunday was a bit strained: a "Suite Española" thickly orchestrated by Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos from the music of Albeniz, and Strauss's *Don Quixote* (with Mircha Malky a superbly dramatic cello soloist) — which is at least about an authentic Spanish hero, albeit a fictitious one.

Does playing in a different country every night adversely affect an orchestra's performances? London orchestras actually seem to play with more cohesion and polish abroad, possibly because a tour allows them to repeat repertoire in a way that is rarely possible in London.

Moreover, the fortitude of British musicians on the road is legendary. As Jefferson wryly observes: "These are players who have looked out through the windows of a plane about to take off from Leipzig airport, and experienced the unique frustration of seeing the trumpet still standing on the tarmac. Merely touring 12 countries in 20 days is a breeze."

## Tales of two cities

THE traditional cultural rivalry between Scotland's two greatest cities has been exacerbated by Glasgow's announcement of a £6.5 million plan to set up its own modern art gallery. Hitherto, the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art sited in Edinburgh has been pre-eminent in this field. It is unlikely, however, that Glasgow will

fulfil this ambition unless it is chosen as Visual Arts Capital 1996 as part of the Arts Council's "Arts 2000" project. That announcement will be made next week. Later this year, however, Edinburgh will receive a tremendous cultural fillip: the city has been chosen as the venue for the culmination of John Drummond's European Arts Festival, timed to coincide with the European Community summit.

## Life of Lynn

A MUSICAL play about the life and times of Dame Vera Lynn is being staged. Unlike *Evita*, the musical about another great 20th-century female icon, *Yours Sincerely* will be written and performed by one person, the actress Maggie Ollerenshaw. Including ten songs, among them the inevitable "We'll Meet Again", the show will be staged, fittingly, in the heart

## Last chance

BLACK MIME Theatre's *Drowning* is a powerful but funny study of three women and alcohol. Excellent performances; an exhilarating production from Denise Wong; and an approach that never patronises. Last performances at the Young Vic Studio (071-928 6363), tonight and tomorrow at 8pm.

of "Battle of Britain" country: tomorrow night in the Culbendon Theatre of the University of Kent at Canterbury.



# Ready, willing, disabled

Alan Franks talks to Alf Morris, the MP whose lifelong battle on behalf of a still-oppressed minority is about to enter a crucial new phase

Alf Morris has been here before. In 1970, with a general election imminent and not much time left in the Parliamentary session, his 33-clause bill, aimed at improving the rights of the disabled, seemed certain to founder. "Never mind," he reasoned. "If the drafting of the bill manages to start a public debate, perhaps it will have served its purpose."

As it turned out, the bill attracted a seldom matched degree of all-party support, developed a momentum of its own, and, before the House disbanded for the June election, had matured into the historic Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act.

A week today, a new and no less ambitious bill, brought by Mr Morris as a private member, and intended to outlaw discrimination against the disabled, mental and physical, is due to receive its second reading in the Commons. Its aim is to guarantee for disabled people similar legal rights to those available to women and black people under the sex and race equality laws. It would make it illegal for anyone to use disability as a reason for withholding equal treatment, whether in housing, employment, education, transport, leisure, or any other public and private services.

Because of the election, such a measure could only become law with the backing of the government's business managers. Once again, time is running out, and the odds seem to be against an enactment this session.

Mr Morris is having no such pessimism. You might expect nothing less from the presenter of a bill which enshrines ideals he has held dear for his 28 Parliamentary years. What heartens the Labour MP for Manchester, Wythenshawe most of all, and makes him hark back to 1970 as a plausible precedent, is the fact that Nicholas Scott, the minister for social security and disabled persons, has declared his own attitude to be one of benign neutrality. "Six months ago," Mr Morris says, "or even as recently as last September, you could have described the government's attitude as one of malign hostility. Instead of favouring legislation that would make discrimination a breach of the law, they wanted to educate opinion, and to change the public's approach by exhortation."

These words are delivered in a drawl and weary way, as if the time it takes to say them, and the predictability of their conclusion, describes the futile grind of such

an approach. Mr Morris sounds like a man who has not so much run out of liberalism, but grown tired of its ineffectiveness.

He is now aged 63, full of the patient resolve and dogged tenacity that can be found in Labour members of his generation. Having been chairman of the world committee appointed to draft the "Charter for the 1980s" for disabled people, he is also painfully well placed to assess the gap between the aspirations at the start of the decade, and the present reality. He almost seems to have lost his faith in persuasion.

"I have pointed out that on the single issue of car seat belts, the government spent more than £7 million — and I am talking of 1960s prices, not today's — trying to 'educate and exhort', and it failed, and so they had to legislate. Now, they haven't spent anything like that amount in trying to change public attitudes towards people with disabilities, yet they still insisted that that [education] remained the way forward."

The parallels between 1970 and now, although extensive, turn out to be largely academic. They also mask a critical difference: whereas the 1970 Act addressed questions of rights and benefits for the first time in a comprehensive way, the present bill is designed to free the disabled from such "further disabilities" as bad employers or denial of physical access to shops, public transport and buildings. Its targets are discrimination by design and by neglect.

"It is simply outrageous for a shipping line to return a deaf woman's cheque because they don't think that a particular holiday is suitable for her," Mr Morris fumes. "That, to me, is the ultimate in condescension, and it is revolting: or for a woman who has been given a particularly responsible post by a police authority to be told, 'You've got the job, but you can't join the pension scheme'. Or for someone who has worked for a company for 20 years and then is suddenly disabled to be suddenly pushed to the back of the longest queue in the country (for jobs) just because his employers refuse to carry out the modifications needed for him at work. Or for a 16-year-old girl getting a job as a filing clerk, only to be sacked on her first morning because she has one hand missing."

Mr Morris only grows impatient if the discussion dwells too long on the state of existing legal remedies for such cases. The



Sport sets the standard: the Southport Sharks tackle Lodgemoor Raiders in a game of wheelchair rugby during last year's Disabled Games at Stoke Mandeville

impression is that there is really no point in discussing them because they do not exist. "The whole point is that, whatever people say, it is not illegal to discriminate. For example, if Earl Spencer wants to deny admission to his home by people in wheelchairs, there is nothing to stop him doing so."

To say that there was no legislation at all on the statute books before 1970 is not technically true. There had been the 1944 Disabled Persons Employment Act, now effectively defunct through the failure of firms to comply with its provisions. One of the most important of these was the requirement that any firm with 20 or more staff should have among

them at least 3 per cent with a registered disability. In 1987 *The Times* reported that barely more than a quarter were meeting the requirement. Today, the Disability Information and Advice Service in London says that the number of companies complying with the quota is "almost none". As for the government itself, not one of its 25 principal departments was meeting the target.

Of course, that Act is not binding on the Crown (an immunity which Mr Morris's bill seeks to remove), yet government departments have none the less agreed in theory to observe the

quotas. Even the BBC, often cited as a benevolent employer, found room for a mere 85 registered disabled in a staff of almost 30,000.

"There have been some efforts to enforce the 1944 Act," Mr Morris concedes, "but all the organisations for the disabled with which I have dealt tell me that the law is perpetually defied. There was some staggering evidence in a recent enquiry by one of the organisations, that 6 per cent of employers actually said they would never take on a disabled person. Now that is the kind of thing which is a challenge, and which demands legal action. After all, a disability is a handicapping thing,

and our task is to reduce the handicapping effect of it. If we are prepared to turn a blind eye to outright discrimination, I believe it detracts from our international reputation."

Mr Morris believes that although the 1970 Act meant that Britain "led the world" in disability legislation, we have slipped from the front of the field to the very back; and that countries which were once motivated by our example — he cites America, Canada, Australia and France — are now at the leading edge.

If the Morris bill were to become law, it would be the first time that the term "civil rights" has found its way into the statute book, the

full title being the Civil Rights (Disabled Persons) Bill. This, its presenter argues, is significant in its own right: "It represents a positive way of approaching the problem. It is a matter not of saying what we are against, but what we are for; and what we are for is citizenship and social equality for disabled people."

One of the bill's most important goals is the establishment of a Disabling Commission, able to investigate not only individual complaints about discrimination, but also more general areas where discrimination is suspected. And it would have the power to impose penalties, and take employment cases to industrial tribunals.

## The bookman's dilemma

Book Aid forces our literary editor into some difficult choices

Like a lot of others, our household has more books than I know what to do with. So Book Aid, which hopes to have collected up to a million books this week for Russia and the other former Soviet republics, seemed at first like a godsend. Instead of taking bottles to the bank, we would take unwanted books to the nearest Waterstone's.

A literary editor spends much of the day sending books out to reviewers; it is not a job for unduly possessive personalities. Our house is full of books, and it was the work of a few minutes to dig up a box of political books to interest a Russian, because their function is really utilitarian.

We began with titles such as *The Soviet Union and Terrorism*, *Campaigns against Western Defence* or *How Democracies Perish*, books which will help people trying to make sense of their past. There was a fat volume of selections from perhaps the favourite philosopher of all the former communist countries, Hayek. As a sop to any old socialist left in Russia, we added *Manny Shinn's* memoirs.

After that, however, it got harder. My wife, Sarah, contributed a book about nutrition for children which may, alas, be of only academic interest to most Russian mothers. But when it came to English literature, we could not agree. Other possessions are pooled after marriage, only books preserve an absolute claim on



Spreading the word eastward: organisers of Book Aid with (second from right) Daniel Johnson

each partner's loyalty. The truth is that great books — literature, history, philosophy — are hard to give away because over the years they become part of oneself, a reassuring presence on the shelves.

Still, we found a few belles lettres we could spare. My wife gave a Colin Thubron, I gave a Martin Amis; we agreed on two paperback volumes of Coleridge and Tolstoy, plus one of Klimt's drawings, only because all three were duplicates. I added a few German books. After a very few more items that I have now forgotten, we called a halt.

The worst of it is that I have often regretted occasions when I rashly gave away, lent or sold books. They are always the ones that are most missed. More than once I ended up buying the same book twice. The choicest and most recondite books, alas, almost never cross one's path again.

Once sold the best part of my small library of chess books for the price of a meal.

Well, I needed the meal, but what a waste — though chess books are probably one thing of which the Russians have plenty. And whatever became of the old *Film Fun* annual I had as a boy, already well-thumbed decades before, with its cartoons of wily old bams like Joe E. ("nobody's perfect") Brown?

Probably every reader has his or her little list of literary strays. Why, though, are people so attached to particular books? Such sentimentality seems to defy the growing treatment of books as throwaway items, bought in supermarkets or airport bookstalls and destined to be pulped. That is an attitude which Russians and other Eastern Europeans adopt only too readily in relation to titles of the sort that the late Robert Maxwell used to publish for his communist friends: the detritus of defunct dictators.

But most of the communist system's former serfs would be horrified to see real books by real writers ill-treated.

Disinherited and damned by cause of their enforced idolatry, as some of them feel themselves to be, these men and women revere books all the more now when the texts they were taught to hold sacred have proved instead to be diabolical.

Books are a greater sacrifice because so much more personal a donation than money. Indeed, the thought that it might find a library home in some fabulous place — Novgorod, Vilnius or Vladivostok — should embolden you to grasp the book you were reluctant to wrench yourself away from, and to take it to Waterstone's.

If you cannot bear to give your own books to strangers thousands of miles away, then go to the nearest bookshop and buy one or two books — remainders or paperbacks will do — that you would like to read again. Maybe there will be time to do just that before the deadline of closing time tomorrow.

DANIEL JOHNSON

### COLLECTIONS

National Book Aid Week runs to Sunday.

Books may be handed in at: Heffers, 20 Trinity St, Cambridge; Blackwell, 50 Broad St, Oxford; H.J. Lear, Royal Arcade, Cardiff; Hamrick's, Farnham (both branches); Quaker's, Salisbury and the following branches of Waterstone's: London: Charing Cross Rd, Croydon, Covent Garden, Hampstead, High St, Kensington, Kingston upon Thames, Notting Hill Gate, Richmond, Wimbledon; Aberdeen; Bath (4/5 Milsom St); Birmingham; Bournemouth; Brighton; Bristol (The Galleries); Broadmead; Canterbury; Cheltenham; Colchester (University of Essex); Edinburgh (Princes St and George St); Eastbourne; Exeter; Glasgow (Princes St); Guildford (North St); Lancaster; Leeds (93/97 Albion St); Liverpool (52 Bold St); Maidstone; Manchester (Deansgate and St Ann's Sq); Newcastle; Norwich (St Stephens St); Nottingham; Perth; Preston; Sheffield; Shrewsbury; Stratford upon Avon; Swindon; Winchester; Worcester; York.

Larger book donations: Book Aid warehouse (071 713 7258). Please do not send books to *The Times*.

Cheques payable to Book Aid may be sent c/o Waterstone's Ltd, 37 Ixworth Place, London SW3 3QH.

Donors of money and volunteers will be entered into a draw. First prize, return flight to St Petersburg or Moscow, donated by Barry Martin Travel.

Second prize, case of wine donated by Oddbins. Five runners-up, £20 book vouchers each, donated by Waterstone's. Winners will be contacted by February 14.

### The only compromise we've made

**T154 Tumble Dryer**  
Was £550  
Now £495  
Save £55

**K3315 Larder Refrigerator**  
Was £425  
Now £395  
Save £30

**W715 Washing Machine**  
Was £875  
Now £785  
Save £90

**S2201 Vacuum Cleaner**  
Was £195  
Now £175  
Save £20

**G5956C Dishwasher**  
Was £885  
Now £795  
Save £90

Compromise is not a word normally associated with Miele. But, whilst our high standards never vary, our prices occasionally do. Over the next few weeks, you can save on a selection of Miele washing machines, tumble driers, dishwashers, fridges, freezers and vacuum cleaners. Take for example the Miele G5956C dishwasher now available at £795 — a saving of £90.

So, whilst we've compromised on the price, we recommend that you don't compromise on the product.

For further information please call 0235 554488.

**Miele**  
Anything else is a compromise



## For sale: lock, stock and barrel

Anatole Kaletsky says all Soviet assets must be sold to the people

The travelling circus of foreign ministers has come and gone from Washington. Billions of dollars "worth" of worthless agricultural surpluses has been duly pledged to help Russia and the other former Soviet republics to overcome their non-existent famines and humanitarian emergencies. Meanwhile, proper efforts to support economic reform in Russia have been postponed yet again.

On the eve of the Washington conference, Yegor Gaidar, Russia's deputy prime minister and latest economic supremo, appealed to Western leaders to shift their attention from mere humanitarian assistance to the long-term financial support that will be needed to stabilise the rouble and avert hyperinflation.

The West's public response has been to promise more agricultural dumping and to announce another conference in June.

But behind the scenes, there have been signs of attitudes changing. Russia's admission to the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, which could release up to \$10 billion a year in international assistance, is expected within months. Proposals for an annual \$20 billion of aid seem quite modest when compared with the Western world's \$650 billion defence budget, the \$60 billion annual subsidies to eastern Germany or the \$200 billion spent by the American government to bail out its mortgage banks.

But if the idea of offering long-term economic support is gaining ground, there is still great confusion about the form aid and the conditions to be attached. Mr Gaidar's priority seems to be to make the rouble convertible into other currencies and so avert hyperinflation. Yet convertibility is neither necessary nor sufficient for the avoidance of hyperinflation, as Brazil, Argentina and Israel know only too well.

At least three other conditions have to be satisfied before a hyperinflationary country can hope to stabilise the value of its money: the government must stop spending substantially more than it collects in taxes, the banking system must limit the availability of credit to enterprises and individuals, and there must be a degree of competition in the main markets for goods and services, to ensure that tighter monetary and fiscal conditions are reflected in stable prices, rather than collapsing output.

Unfortunately, none of these three conditions is anywhere near being met in Russia. Last year the Soviet Union's budget deficit was about 20 per cent of national income, according to Susanne Gahler of Morgan Guaranty Trust. This year the Yeltsin government has made some bold moves to cut military spending and abolish costly subsidies, so reducing its planned deficit to around 7 per cent of GDP. But even if Mr Yeltsin can withstand the public clamour to raise wages and pen-

sions in line with rocketing prices, he has little chance of collecting newly introduced taxes from uncooperative enterprises and local authorities. And even if the government can limit its own demand for credit, its influence over the burgeoning private banking system is limited, and conflicts between Russia, Ukraine and other commonwealth states and local authorities may undermine hopes of monetary control.

Such fiscal and monetary problems could perhaps be solved by IMF and World Bank programmes, backed with enormous financial assistance. But the first use for this money should not be to make the rouble convertible, but to fund unemployment programmes, support imports (especially from Eastern Europe) and invest in military conversion.

Above all, Western money and expertise should be used to assist privatisation.

Until there is wide private ownership and competition in the economy, market mechanisms will not do their vital job of equalising supply and demand. In this respect, the Russian reforms were introduced in the wrong order. Ideally, sweeping privatisation should have come before price reform, not after it.

According to Mr Gaidar and his Western advisers, the haemorrhaging budget deficit left the government with no choice but to end subsidies and to free prices immediately, while privatisation is inevitably a slow process. But this seemingly technical argument raises a critical political issue, which the new economic establishment in Russia has got dangerously wrong. The Russians seem determined to take their time over privatisation so as to make sure that businesses are sold at "fair" prices. However, either trying to value companies fairly or selling them to the highest bidder could both lead to disaster. Valuation would inevitably mean delays and legal challenges; auctions would naturally favour corrupt officials and blackmarketeers.

There are only three fair ways of rapidly privatising large parts of a communist economy: sell some businesses to foreign investors; give land and housing directly to their present occupants; or distribute shares in most domestic enterprises, free of charge, to the whole population. To the born-again capitalists who now run Russia and other East European countries, the concept of giving people "something for nothing" through mass privatisations is deeply repugnant. Even small-scale socialism. But mass privatisation is the one way to transform a state-controlled economy quickly into an enterprise economy without giving all the best assets away to the blackmarketeers and *nomenklatura*. The West's key condition for giving financial assistance to Russia and the other republics must now be mass privatisation — and it must start at once.



Yegor Gaidar must hold the biggest auction ever

Philip Howard on a guide to stinginess that will appeal to every thrifty English aristocrat

## Secondhand snobs

colour and style, to save time in sorting them from your clothes' line on washing day, and so that you still have a pair when one sock is at long last holed beyond all darning. Make telephone calls in cheap time, and keep them short by making a list of what you need to say beforehand. Wash paper coffee filters for recycling. Three used teabags have the potency of one new one.

These practices take Americans back to the frontier economy of early colonists in those harsh winters. But for at least the past century and a half since Dickens went there, Americans have been famous for their extravagance rather than for thrift. It is the English upper classes who are notoriously economical. Of course, there have always been exceptions. Young rakehells have gambled or drunk away their estates, or have married for love rather than

prudence. But the general tendency of the British aristocracy, since its landed wealth was limited by the Corn Laws and the industrial revolution, has been thrifty. This tendency was accentuated by the two wars of this century, when the tennis courts were ploughed up for potatoes, and the estates were used on cattle and nasturtium soup.

English peers and their scions are famous for wearing their fathers' and grandfathers' clothes and shoes. There used to be a department at Moss Bros, known irreverently to customers as "Dead Men's Clothes". "You mean the Special Offers Department," the floor manager used to say, with a pained expression. Upper class clothes from the famous old tailors and shirtmakers in Savile Row and Jermyn Street are built to last, as are shoes from Lobb the bootmaker. An upper-class acquaintance took some Harris tweed into

one such place the other day, to have a suit with knickerbockers made for his country pursuits of biffing and boffing. "This will be your terminal suit, then, Sir?" asked the assistant, toiling around him with his tape measure. He was a bit offended, since he is only just steering towards middle age. But such clothes are built to last several generations.

That is why the English and Scottish upper classes dress like tweedy tramps. To avoid odious particularisation of the living, Lord Emsworth always dressed like something the cat had brought in — and the ginger tom at Blandings was broad-minded. Emsworth saved his money for the things that really mattered, like the best swill for the Empress and fivers for small girls. The British laboriously unknot string and keep it in little coils for a rainy day. When a nob dies, his "office" is

found to be full of tins of copper coins and used stamps.

The English lexicon is rich with words for thrift, all of them borrowed: skintight, pursey, cheese-paring, Scrooge, cheapskate, curmudgeonly. In a tightfisted triumph of hope over experience, the English vocabulary for generosity is admiringly liberal, handsome, free, princely, oofy, rich as Croesus. When Dick Turpin held up the ducal coach with the Duke of Rutland in it and said "Your money or your life", there was a long pause. Dick repeated: "I said, your money or your life." The Duke: "I heard you, my man. I'm thinking over your proposal."

There ought to be a market for *The Tightwad Gazette* in this country. The trouble is that an overseas subscription is \$21 or its sterling equivalent, £11.70. And, in any case, the mag is not likely to contain anything that we have not known and practised for centuries. Where do you suppose all those phrases about cheese-paring and candle ends came from in the first place?

The most crucial stage of the election is already well under way, argues Peter Riddell

## A far from phoney war

A WEEK IN POLITICS

Political parties are already testing the public's patience — at least 11 and possibly 15 weeks before polling day. Three weeks of almost daily salvos have produced signs of campaign fatigue. After yet another rowdy Commons clash, Bernard Weatherill, the Commons Speaker, sighed, in his best world-weary headmaster style: "In my judgment the election campaign started when we came back from the Christmas recess. It has ever been thus."

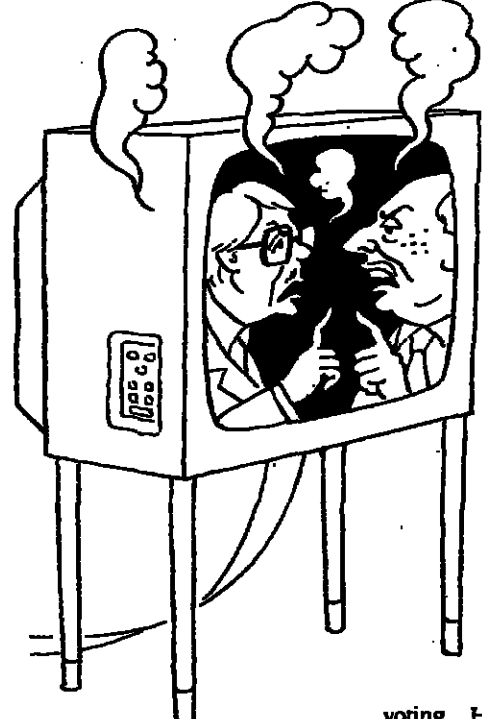
Many people must sympathise with the memorable title of Jack Germond and Jules Wotover's book on the unmemorable 1984 American presidential election, *Wake Me When It's Over*.

But if campaigning is so unpopular why do the parties do it? They are pounding each other in what is far from a phoney war because they believe they have no choice and because it works. And, tedious and tiresome though it is to some, the current pre-campaign helps to refine the voters' choice.

The parties each argue that they have to campaign vigorously because the others do. It is like the successful British Lions packs of the 1970s operating on the principle of getting their retaliation in first. The Tories' case for this month's onslaught on Labour's tax plans is that, unless they had attacked in January, Labour might have built a sizeable lead on the back of the gloomy talk before Christmas about the economy.

The parties know that this is the time, before the formal four-week campaign, when the electorate makes up its mind. These days voters are more open to such influences, because they are less firmly attached to one party or another than they were before the 1970s. (This is the much-debated partisan dealignment.)

There is a lot of movement during the final campaign, both between parties and between parties and abstention, but the moves tend to cancel each other out. The biggest net shift towards one party



or another tends to occur earlier, in periods such as this. Specific events can be decisive: the strikes and union disruption of the winter of 1978-9 crucially affected the subsequent election. But these are rare occurrences and party campaigns are usually more important in deciding electors' choices.

A series of interviews during 1986-7 with a large panel of voters (as reported by Professor William Miller and others in *How Voters Change*) shows that the Tories created their election-winning margin during the winter before the May-June campaign. The Tory recovery was not a process of gathering in latent supporters, but was greatest among those who did not usually support any party but who did identify with a class. This additional support was greatest among *Sun* and *Star* readers.

Similarly, the Tories' current campaign is aimed at hardening wavering voters' views about Labour. Professor Miller's research shows that voters' feelings about which party is best at managing the economy (where the Tories are still ahead) and which is best for themselves correlates closely with

voting. However, despite long-established evidence that a (growing) majority of voters would accept higher taxes to finance more spending on public services, this altruism has a looser relationship with voting intentions. In 1987, a majority of those who thought the Tories were best at managing the economy wanted a tax increase, albeit a small one. Attitudes towards public spending and taxes matter, but the key is the size of any tax increase. This is why the Tory campaign has had an impact. Not only are the main parties still roughly level-pegging, but more than half the electorate believes that taxes would go up under a Labour government.

Over the last three weeks, the Tories have shown their instinctive ruthlessness in a close fight. They have shifted the debate to an issue favourable to themselves, with the help of the highly partisan Tory tabloids, and have forced Labour to appear muddled. The apparent confusion over the phasing of increases in the higher rate of taxes and the ceiling on employee national insurance contributions has led to some sharp words among Labour leaders about the

need for coordination. And before the election is over, Labour will have to be more precise about how it intends to finance its priority programme of raising child benefit and pensions and stimulating investment and training.

The current Conservative campaign may work, but is it right? The allegation that Labour would raise income tax by 10p in the pound is, as stated, absurd. Not only have Labour spokesmen repeatedly said that ordinary families cannot afford to pay any more tax, but, more pertinently, such a sharp increase would be electoral suicide. What matters about the Tories' revised costing of Labour's promises at more than £37 billion are not the numbers, but the questions about the status of comments by Labour spokesmen. Are they pledges or vague aspirations which falsely raise expectations? There is a contrast between the austerity of John Smith and the more permissive attitude of those shadowing spending departments.

The recent party exchanges, crude though they have been, have generated a debate among economists about what can be afforded. Promises have been analysed. As I have written before, neither party has much leeway over tax or spending after the increases in public spending announced last November, and in view of the limits on borrowing in the European monetary guidelines. The two main parties have converged, in the sense that they recognise the limits of what voters and markets will tolerate. As a result of this wider debate generated by the slogans, voters are in a better position to reach an assessment than they were a month ago.

The campaigning will continue at their current pace until April 9 or May 7, neither party dare let up. Similar extravagant abuse has begun over who is to blame for the recession, and is likely next month to greet Labour's new offensive over the health service. However impatient the political classes may get, such clashes are an inescapable part of democracy. Elections are seldom nice and have often been a good deal nastier.



...and moreover  
ALAN COREN

You could say it was none of my business. It was not in my tree, it was in the council's tree, outside my house and my jurisdiction, and it was therefore the council's business. But what I say is *civis Barnettus sum*, which translates roughly as "I'm from Barnett council, it will be there for six months, or until some kid chucks a brick at it and the brick goes through somebody's window, viz mine."

Apart from which, it looked horrible. This being the time of year it is, it is bad enough beholding bare ruin'd choirs where late the sweet birds sang, without having to behold something quite as ruinous to a bare choir as this. Shakespeare didn't know how lucky he was: true, there may have been chips and dog-dens littering the feet of Elizabethan trees, but at least Raleigh did not bring rubber home from the New World. When Shakespeare looked out of his bedroom window, he did not find an enormous red balloon looking back at him.

Looking moreover with two blob eyes and a crescent grin: you know the face I mean, the circular minimalist one created in the Sixties so that lapels and tee-shirts could proclaim the virtues of substances which gave you two blob eyes and a crescent grin. Since I did not want this in the tree outside my bedroom window, I ran downstairs, screwed a couple of drain-rods together, and went outside for a bit of a poke. It was a tough balloon. It did not go bang. The grin grew grotesquely twisted,

but the cheeks held, until, with one bound, the face was free and floating, very slowly, down.

The end of the problem? The beginning.

I had, until that moment, assumed that the face had broken away from some homotoddling infant for whom a tube of Smarties, a wedge of birthday cake, and a balloon-string had proved too much for one small mitten, but it was not so. This was an adult balloon. Moreover, and despite its vacuous grin, it was a serious one. I could tell this, because it was Belgian, and you do not get much more serious than that. And I could tell it was Belgian because it sported a label that had been attached to it by one Martin Verlaan, who had done the attaching at a carefully printed-out address in Liège, which, I'm embarrassed to admit, gave me immoderate pleasure, because this meant it was a Walloon balloon.

However, even such agreeable gift-horses have to have their mouths examined, which was where the problem I mentioned began. For I had Martin's address, but what was I going to do with it? He had despatched the balloon in the hope that someone finding it would write back to him, and common courtesy, indeed, seemed to require me to let him know that the thing had successfully negotiated the 250 miles which separate Liège from Cricklewood. Furthermore, that's only if you're a crow: if you're a balloon, frail prey to every breeze and thermal, you

could have been anywhere, you could have got to my tree via Kyoto and Bogota, so, Martin, apart from the balloon, I had myself, after all its hard work, something more than a pin and a wastebasket? Wouldn't it want Martin to be proud of it?

And yet, and yet, who is Martin? What kind of man sits in a room in Liège with an oxygen cylinder and a bag of balloons, filling the international welkin with his name and address? And, wanting moreover, mine in return, because that's what the label invited, in half a dozen languages. He might be merely an amateur meteorologist, he might be merely unemployed, he might be merely lonely, but he might, too, be raving mad. You can never tell with people who float balloons out of Belgian windows. Would I want to enter into a correspondence with a crackpot? I wouldn't even want to enter into a correspondence with an amateur meteorologist. I should have to find out what an isobar is in Flemish, and since I do not know what an isobar is in English, I cannot see much future in further contact, you know how it is with people, one thing leads to another, and before you know it there is an anorak standing on your mat holding two fir-cones and a rain-gauge and asking to stay the night so he can pass on his occluded front anecdotes.

I think my best course would be to put the balloon back in the tree and let Barnett deal with him. That's what poll tax is for.

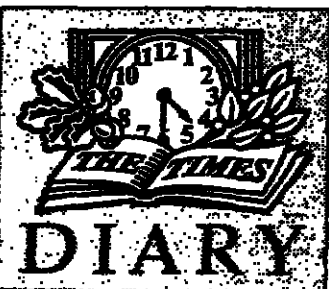
### Roadshow stopper

AS Whitehall buzzes with election scheming, a row has broken out over whether plans to spread the word about John Major's citizen's charter constitute government information or party propaganda. The government had hoped to launch the "citizen's charter roadshow" with Francis Maude at the wheel of a "charter bus", touring the country. The plan has now been quietly dropped because the campaign, which would have been funded by the taxpayer, bore a remarkable similarity to one of the main planks of the Tory election campaign.

On Monday Major is due to unveil the "charter mark" — a symbol of excellence to be awarded to worthy firms — akin to the Queen's award to industry. The plan was that Maude would cash in on the publicity for the charter, which the Tories hope will be a vote-winner.

But with an election only months away civil servants feared that Labour MPs would seize on the venture as an unfair use of taxpayers' money. A spokesman for the Cabinet Office citizen's charter unit says: "The idea was to let the public know what the charter is all about but we are not going ahead at the moment. That's not to say that we won't do so in the future."

Behind those words lies a dispute with the Central Office of Information, which handles government information but is rigorous in its refusal to get involved in party propaganda. "If it is getting so close to an election, we would advise against this because everything has to stop in an election. You have to consider whether it is a very wise use of taxpayers' money," says a spokesman.



"I'll be wearing my clove of garlic round my neck for a few more days," says Dr Conor Cruise O'Brien, who said a decade ago that he would believe Charles Haughey dead only when he saw him "buried at midnight with a stake through his heart." But even O'Brien thinks the latest scandal will prove too much for the Taoiseach. "If the government falls, then Fianna Fáil will hold an emergency meeting and I think they'll finally ditch him. Only then will it be safe to put my garlic back in the drawer."

### Over again

THE first American GIs arrived in Britain 50 years ago this weekend. "Over-paid, over-sexed and over here," as wartime Britain famously summed them up. Raymond Seitz, the current American ambassador, confessed to two out of the three epithets.

Veteran Ben Calder, at the Imperial War Museum yesterday to launch an anniversary exhibition, says these days he is only over here. Calder recalled how he first fell for his wife Pearl at a party in London, put a ring on her finger and settled here. "I'm a GI bride in reverse," he says. "I do still miss Baltimore. Harrow just isn't the same. Both my sons feel they're British so I'm the only foreigner in the family."

From today thousands of former GIs will be swarming into Britain. "Sunday is an important anniversary," says Dr Alan Borg, the director general of the Imperial War Museum. Some regarded the invasion of the GIs with almost as much trepidation as an invasion by Hitler. "This time the country will probably welcome those returning wholeheartedly. Mind you," he says, "if the number of GI brides is anything to go

Over-rated, over-fed and over the hill.



by they had a pretty good welcome the first time. Any snide British remarks didn't upset the Americans. They simply replied that the British were under-paid, under-sexed — and under Eisenhower."

### Selling point

THE reverberations of the Maxwell affair continue as further forgotten outposts of the empire discover that promises have not been honoured. Philippa Harrison, the managing director of Macdonald publishing, says: "For the first ten days of this month the administrators said they could not afford to pay staff their full salaries. Everyone was paid for the rest of

### Writers flock

YESTERDAY'S appointment of Alex Shulman as editor of *Vogue* is merely the latest appointment in one of journalism's great family dynasties. Her mother, Drusilla Beyfus, was editor of *Brides* and *Harrods* magazines. She was also associate editor of *Vogue* from 1979 to 1987. Sister Nicola, the Countess of Mulgrave, writes for the *Times* and *Harper's & Queen*. Her father, Milton, is of course a theatre critic. "It's not a dynasty, it's an epidemic," he says proudly of his own family.

Collectors of malapropisms will delight at the return to office of one of the great exponents of the (nearby) English-speaking world, Tommy Patton, the former Belfast lord mayor, installed yesterday as the city's High Sheriff. He has for years amused Belfasters with his noisy opponents of "meringuing" parks committee was discussing the acquisition of a gondola for the lake at Belfast Zoo. "Shouldn't we buy a pair," enquired Patton, "and breed our own?"





## AFRICA'S PATRONS DEPART

Piny was wrong: out of Africa always something old. President Mobutu of Zaire was back in the news again yesterday when another bid to topple his regime was ended by those few palace guards still loyal to his fading cause. Mr Mobutu, a dictator for more than two decades, has been holding revolt at bay by promising his people free elections, but these promises have proved as empty as hopes of winter snow in his tropical capital, Kinshasa.

Since September, Mr Mobutu's grip on power has looked increasingly tenuous. His underpaid soldiers have fled the country and the international lending institutions have long given up hope of retrieving all the good money they have been pouring after him. Zaire, like many another Cold War client state, has been abandoned by its patrons among the superpowers and international bankers. Chaos has ensued.

The Mobutu regime was one of the many beneficiaries of the Cold War. It will be one of many casualties of its conclusion. Zaire, in the parlance of the American State Department, was a "strategic asset" to be denied to the Soviet Union. With the end of colonial rule in Africa, it seemed imperative to Washington to prop up the successor states. Zaire's rich mineral resources had to be kept in friendly hands, which soon, inevitably, meant corrupt ones.

The country became an important conduit for aid to the UNITA forces fighting the Soviet-backed government in Angola. The Americans and the former colonial power, Belgium, kept international banks sweet while the French lent paratroopers whenever a provincial rebellion threatened to dismember this artificial state. There were also suspicions that the Soviet Union backed coups in the late 1970s to boost prices. As war scare stories multiplied the Soviets would make a killing selling minerals.

With Western backing, Mr Mobutu built himself 11 palaces and sent billions of dollars in non-commercial loans to Swiss bank accounts. His subjects were left with an average income equivalent to £130 a year, a woeful mortality rate and a government that spent more on presidential perks than on housing, health or education. The rest of the money was spent on the usual Third World

idiotcies — nationalisation and prestige projects — creating profits for the ruling class. Now the American administration, prodded by Congress, has reduced its economic assistance and withdrawn military aid. Even relations with Belgium have swiftly deteriorated.

This pattern has been repeated across the continent. For years Washington feared that a communist dominated ANC government would arrive in South Africa on the back of a Cuban tank column. Ethiopia and Somalia took advantage of global naval competition between the superpowers to lease their coastlines in return for modern weapons. With bloated arsenals, these two countries proceeded to fight each other, swap patrons and turn their guns on their own rebellious subjects. Now the Cold War is over both have been left to their own devices, engulfed by famine and anarchy.

Meanwhile the oil-rich Arab states no longer feel the need to buy African votes at the United Nations to secure the passing of anti-Israeli resolutions. As apartheid in South Africa is swept aside, the front-line states are no longer the lucky beneficiaries of white, liberal solicitude, aid and Soviet support. Time was when African states could rely on a post-colonial superpower patronage to build their infrastructure, or at least subsidise their elites. One superpower has collapsed and the other is devoting its energies to propping it up. Africa must look to the once vilified multi-national companies and even to South Africa for sponsorship, and it will be painful.

The West has come late to accept that poverty "neither excuses nor justifies tyranny, torture or corruption," in the words of Britain's aid minister, Lynda Chalker. The political habits of African dictators can no longer be dismissed as a legacy of colonialism. Too much water, and blood, has flowed down the Congo for that apology to wash any more. The blame lies with leaders who spend more of their national income on guns than butter, and on outsiders who patronised them with their support and aid. Western governments are at last making assistance conditional on political and economic reform. If Africans wish to call this neo-imperialism, so be it. The time has come for straight talking.

## PARADISE MISLAID

The town of Milton Keynes is 25 years old this week. Some congratulations must be in order for those who have striven to coat the Buckinghamshire countryside with grids and plazas. Of all this century's attempts at Utopian settlement, Milton Keynes is perhaps the least arrogant and the most flexible. But the anniversary is none the less a memorial to a tradition of social engineering that must be seen as dead and buried. Hardly, however, to be mourned.

Milton Keynes was the last desperate throw of a generation of British planners who were distasteful of the traditional British towns and cities and had the political power and public money to fashion the environment to their will. Humans, they believed, would be more contented in settlements designed as architectural entities rather than by developing and enlarging existing villages, towns and cities.

While such idealism had its roots in the garden city movement of Raymond Unwin and others at the turn of the century, it flowered with the postwar new-town movement. An eagerness to force large numbers of people out of city centres, shared with authoritarianism in less democratic societies, led to the desertion and dereliction of many of Britain's inner cities and the spoliation of millions of acres of countryside.

From Crawley and Corby to Stalmersdale, Washington and Cumbernauld, new-town blues became a widespread syndrome. Residents, many moved compulsorily and callously, found themselves in single-class towns with poor services and a lack of the communal continuity vital to a humane neighbourhood. Planners disregarded the subtle gradation of relationships implied by extended families, neighbours and friends.

## SING FOR VICTORY

Has the fire-breathing dragon of the valleys lost its singing voice? In anticipation of the Welsh rugby team's next fixture against France, an eminent soprano has been hired to lead the once fearsome terrace choirs of Cardiff Arms Park in the singing of the Welsh anthem, *Hen Wlad fy Nhadau* (*Land of My Fathers*). Poor results in the last year appear to have affected the supporters' larynxes and the Welsh Rugby Union wants Beverley Humphries to stop the rot.

Traditional rugby fans may feel that this takes the fad of "arena opera" one arena too far. The stadiums of the 1990 soccer world cup resounded to the strains of Pavarotti's voice; and Puccini recently made a high-scoring debut at Wembley, in the Royal Opera company's victorious match against Turandot.

The minstrels, warriors and lords of great Snowdon celebrated in the Welsh national anthem would surely hail the WRU's measure as a virtuous bid to revive the glories of the Welsh singing voice. Song has long been an expression of beleaguered nationhood in Wales, part of the country's moral and cultural fabric. Formal assemblies of bards, *eisteddfodau*, have been held in one form or another since the seventh century for the conferring of degrees upon musicians and poets.

Gerald of Wales, the 12th century chronicler, praised the precocious talents of the native singers he encountered in his native country and their taste for ambitious harmonies. "In their musical concerts they do not sing in unison, like the inhabitants of other countries, but in many different parts,"

and their juxtaposition with local institutions and services. The architect was god and history was the devil.

Milton Keynes was a final attempt to prove that this idealism could triumph over its critics. It was designed to be a suburban city, some 30 square miles of Buckinghamshire countryside devoted to 250,000 people, every one a car driver. Real care was shown for landscaping, collective services and "desire lines". On its own terms Milton Keynes has not failed, though its public architecture sadly coincided with the barren declining years of the Modern Movement, bequeathing the central area an awful frigidity and bleakness. But there is no reason why, over the coming decades, Milton Keynes should not prove more popular than the concrete monuments to working-class "decanting" of the north of England.

Disillusion with such towns today must not lead to a reactionary disillusion with town and country planning as such. The British landscape needs strategic planning if it is not to become a continuous suburban sprawl. Indeed the cardinal sin of the new towns concept lay in its abuse of both the old towns it neglected and the country it spoiled. The cities of Britain have ample space to meet demand for housing and commercial development, not least at a time of severe property recession. Infilling smaller towns and villages can supplement such demand.

But Britain's countryside, already more cramped than that of any other of the larger nations of Europe, must be safeguarded. Modern planning need not be Utopian to be emphatic. City dwellers and country dwellers have a like interest in protecting the rolling acres of rural Britain from another Milton Keynes.

he observed, "so that in a company of singers, which one very frequently meets in Wales, you will hear as many different parts and voices as there are performers".

The musical excellence of which Gerald spoke has taken the occasional knock. Elizabeth I, a Tudor queen of Welsh descent, had to intervene in the 1560s to save the *eisteddfodau* from the vagrant and idle persons naming themselves minstrels, rhydders, and barthes... lately grown into such an intolerable multitude.

By the second half of the 19th century, however, choral singing had established deep roots in the Nonconformist chapels and supplied a stirring soundtrack to the rise of Wales as a rugby-playing nation. It is this culture which the WRU is seeking to revive.

The union is also embarked on a different but related matter, hardly less important: the revival of Welsh rugby itself after the disasters of 1991. A three-month tour of Australia included an ignominious 63-6 defeat at the hands of the Wallabies, followed by a deplorable record in the world cup.

This state of affairs was bucked unexpectedly last Saturday when Wales defeated Ireland at Lansdowne Road, the team's first victory in the Five Nations Championship since 1989. Denied their national anthem by the Irish Rugby Union, the Welsh players delivered their own impromptu version of the song. It was this experience, they said, which roused them to victory. Given a stadium of lusty (and soon-to-be well trained) singers, who knows what sporting glories might once more lie ahead?

## Standard fees for legal-aid work

From the Lord Chancellor

Sir, Your leader, "Price of justice" (January 22), recommended that I should submit the question of standard fees for legal-aid work in criminal cases in magistrates' courts for the consideration of the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice. Obviously the Royal Commission will consider this matter insofar as it may affect the subject of its remit. When it reports I shall consider its views with great interest. Meanwhile, Parliament has charged me with the responsibility for determining professional remuneration for legal aid.

You accept that the rising cost of legal aid must be brought under control. Standard fees will help to do this. Over the last five years, the number of cases dealt with under criminal legal aid in the magistrates' courts has risen by 19 per cent. The retail price index has risen by 33 per cent. The average payment per case has risen by 81 per cent. Costs cannot continue to increase at this rate.

The magistrates' courts hear over a million criminal cases a year (excluding summary motoring cases). Over 600,000 of these were legally aided in 1990. Most cases are short and relatively inexpensive. They are well suited to being paid on a standard basis.

Standard fees for relatively standard blocks of work are not a new approach for lawyers or for others doing professional work. They will still be related to the amount of work done, and will maintain overall the current level of expenditure on criminal legal aid in the magistrates' courts.

The level of these fees must be set to encourage a sufficient number of solicitors to do the work, and to allow them to do the work properly. Special provisions will apply for special cases and accordingly the scheme will not cover all the legally aided cases in the magistrates' courts.

These are matters which I am presently discussing with the Law Society and the Bar. These discussions are not yet completed. As your leader recognises, the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 significantly extended the availabil-

ity of legal advice. The Royal Commission's recommendations may well affect the work that defence lawyers are required to do, and in that event the fee structure may need to be changed.

In the meantime, standard fees will provide control over costs, long overdue, and bring benefits to solicitors by allowing quicker payments and a simplified system for these payments, with consequent benefits to their clients.

Yours sincerely,  
JAMES MACKAY,  
Lord Chancellor's Office,  
House of Lords,  
January 22.

From the President of the Law Society

Sir, I welcome your editorial. However, you suggest that solicitors' leaders had been privately expecting "not much beyond 4 per cent" by way of this year's increase in the legal-aid fees. In fact, we expect an increase which is at least sufficient to ensure that legal-aid practitioners' plight is not worsened. The estimate of the likely rise in solicitors' overheads over the next year is a little over 8 per cent. That should be the Lord Chancellor's starting point.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER ELY, President,  
The Law Society,  
113 Chancery Lane, WC2.  
January 22.

From Mr P. du P. Langrishe

Sir, I write as a solicitor who did not participate in the "strike" vote (report, January 22) but who does venture from time to time into the local criminal courts. My simplistic contribution to what is a very complicated debate is that, as a defence lawyer, I would not object to working under the handicap of a fixed fee if the prosecution were to be subjected to the same constraint.

Yours faithfully,  
P. du P. LANGRISHE,  
Symes Robinson & Lee (solicitors),  
Manor Office, North Street,  
Credition, Devon.  
January 22.

EIU report draws heavily from it. It is also influenced by SNCF's published assessments that other domestic routes would yield less successful return from investment.

We share M. Loubinoux's enthusiasm for the high-speed network serving Paris, Brussels, London, Cologne, Frankfurt and Amsterdam. We suggest, however, that marketing such an international network creates a new type of challenge. It is not self-evident that co-operation between national railways, all of which are presently accountable to their national governments, provides an ideal mechanism for meeting the challenge.

The three major railways involved, BR, DB (Germany) and SNCF have, for historical reasons, different fares policies and different operating systems and practices. Inter-railway negotiations would not seem to be a good basis for developing and driving an effective international marketing strategy.

Yours sincerely,  
DAVID HOLLINGS (Director),  
Accent Marketing & Research Ltd.,  
Gable House,  
14-16 Turnham Green Terrace, W4.

## Rail in Europe

From Mr David Hollings

Sir, As one of the joint authors of the Economic Intelligence Unit report on "European Railways — Prospects for the Long Distance Rail Services in the 1990s", I was very dismayed to see one of our conclusions described by M. J.-P. Loubinoux of French Railways as "total nonsense" (letter, January 14).

It is hardly a controversial conclusion that the substantial costs of investment in new lines capable of handling a frequent service of high-speed trains, travelling at speeds of 300kph or more, can be sustained only by attracting significant volumes of new passengers.

Volume growth on a large scale is likely to occur only in corridors between major cities and between points where the high-speed trains can provide travel times of not more than around three hours. There is only a limited number of such corridors within the EC and fewer of them are international.

Far from discounting the success achieved by the TGV Sud Est and Atlantique services, as implied by M. Loubinoux, the conclusion in the

## Heritage block

From Mr David Bieda

Sir, Jocelyn Stevens's remarks about English Heritage blocking things (report, January 15), certainly rang a bell here, despite the qualifications in his letter (January 16).

This charity plans to complete a model scheme for environmental improvements in city conservation areas and to publicise the results nationally. We have received enthusiastic endorsement from the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Royal Town Planning Institute, the Civic Trust, local authorities and others, and substantial financial commitments from the private sector.

The London division of English Heritage was impressed and helpful

when first approached and offered modest financial support. It has, however, proved impossible to rouse any interest from English Heritage in the proposal as it affects historic areas outside London.

It seems that almost six years after the demise of the GLC and the takeover of its historic buildings responsibilities by English Heritage, there has still been no integration of the old GLC functions or even a proper definition of responsibilities within the merged organisation.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID BIEDA (Chairman),  
Seven Dials Monument  
Company Limited,  
1 Shorns Gardens,  
Seven Dials, WC2.  
January 16.

## Decade of Evangelism

From the Bishop of Doncaster and the Bishop of Lichfield

Sir, Clifford Longley's article, "The Decade of Evangelism was never going to work" (January 18), looks pessimistically at the work of the churches for Christian unity and evangelism. There is, however, another way of telling the same story.

It is possible to concentrate on the astonishing improvements in relationships which have taken place between Christians of different denominations; the growth of local co-operation in places where Christians often share together in the administration of baptism, offer each other eucharistic hospitality, share the gift of ministry, care for one another and, most importantly, serve the community together.

It is also possible to look at the Decade of Evangelism from an entirely different perspective. The decade has never been intended as a high-profile exercise; but more as a steady and consistent recovery of the priority of a faithful proclamation of the good news about Jesus in word and action.

It is misleading to suggest that the call for a Decade of Evangelism was

a patronising attempt on the part of the 1988 Lambeth Conference to reassure evangelists. It arose rather out of the urgent concern of bishops from many other parts of the Anglican Communion; a concern from which we in this country have much to learn.

However, what is most strange in Clifford Longley's assessment is his assumption that renewal is somehow a third activity separable from evangelism and unity. The renewal of the visible life of the Church is a constant and never-ending process and will be until the end of time.

The impetus and insight for renewal comes from an understanding of holy scripture, from the Church's attempt through the centuries to live faithfully to the gospel, and from the insights of the contemporary world. In a constant interplay of these, under the power of the holy spirit, the Church is called to renew its life. In the very act of evangelism Christians are to listen before they speak. The holy spirit at work in the world is sometimes ahead of the Church.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

## Proposals for teaching art and music

From the President of the Royal Academy of Arts

Sir, To those practising artists who have chosen to spend part of their working lives teaching art to different age groups and had hoped to see the best practice of art education reflected in the curriculum, the National Curriculum Council's consultation report on art (details, January 14) must seem a retreat to an obscurantism invented by academics who view the practice of art with the deepest misgivings.

No one who has had the privilege of seeing the art room in almost any local authority school would fail to recognise the fertility of ideas and the brilliance of execution painted and pinned to the walls. For the report to weight the curriculum for seven to 11-year-olds with study of "the characteristics of art from different periods, styles and genres, including: classical, renaissance, impressionism, pop art, and identify the work of influential artists who exemplify these" must be misguided.

The most fruitful way of familiarising pupils with examples of art from the past is to show them illustrations side by side with their own paintings in an appropriate practical context. It is true that art can be learnt by imitation and has always been so; but to curtail children's opportunity to be creative, which is what they most enjoy, would seem to fly in the face both of tradition and present-day practice.

Yours faithfully,  
ROGER de GREY, President,  
Royal Academy of Arts,  
Piccadilly, W1.  
January 21.

From Mr John Steers

Sir, Simon Rantle's well publicised condemnation (report, January 17) of the National Curriculum Council's proposals for the teaching of music should not be allowed to obscure the fact that the council has advocated a similarly inappropriate emphasis on theory, rather than practice, for art for five to 14-year-olds.

Analysis of the NCC recommendations reveals that the council has retained virtually all the programmes of study detailed in Lord Renfrew's report; but to these have been added a further collection of programmes of study which detail specific knowledge, mainly of the history of art.

Considering the extra complexity of the NCC's proposals, it is difficult to understand why the council believes that its recommendations will "result in a coherent and manageable art curriculum". It is more likely that teachers, particularly non-specialist primary teachers, will find the NCC proposals very difficult to implement without a massive in-service education programme.

There is an obvious solution which may be acceptable to all concerned: the statutory order could easily be restructured on a three-part model which retains the NCC's attainment target 2 ("knowledge and understanding") and reverses the attainment targets, "making" and "investigating", proposed in Lord Renfrew's report.

This would offer a more appropriate balance between theory and practice. It would continue to emphasise the importance of "process" in art and design teaching.

## Breast-cancer drug trial

From Mrs A. Manson

Sir, The first reason given by the Secretary of the Medical Research Council (letter, January 16) against funding a proposed national trial of tamoxifen in the prevention of breast cancer is that healthy women, taking a daily tablet of the drug, would be reminded every day that they are at risk.

As one who is already taking part in a pilot trial, I would point out that having close relatives with the disease is a perpetual reminder and that taking the tablets is as nothing compared with the reassurance given by the regular and thorough screening which is also part of the trial.

Yours faithfully,  
FRANCES MANSON,  
1 Clonmel Road, SW6.

learning and assessment, while satisfying those who have called for pupils to learn more about the history of art, craft and design.

Might not such a solution also serve to provide a better overall balance in the national curriculum between "knowing how" and "knowing that"?

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN STEERS,  
(General Secretary),  
National Society for Education in Art and Design,  
The Gatehouse, Corham Court,  
Corham, Wiltshire,  
January 17.

From Mr Alan Gates

Sir, Richard Morrison's perceptive article "Classical culture" (January 15) on the nonsense being talked about visual and performing arts in schools scores a bulls-eye. Unfortunately, however, the nonsense is now quite deeply inbred.

The Inner London Education Authority, obsessed as it was with race, gender and class, attracted to its service a large number of educators who still applaud and perpetuate such lunacy. For many of these, I suspect, the pursuit and exaggeration of all forms of cultural diversion helps to ensure advancement under the cloak of enlightenment.

As an ardent music-lover who teaches in one of the largest schools in the capital I am depressed by the fact that the school cannot even muster a quartet, let alone an orchestra or a choir. But yes, of course, we have a steel band!

In every activity, from technology to the humanities, teachers are encouraged to give "parity of esteem" (jargon for equality) to every kind of trivial or transient form of expression, lumping all noble and meaningless cultures into the same multi-ethnic bag. Paradoxically, all children suffer as a result of these muddled attitudes.

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN GATES,  
41 St Winifred's Avenue, E12,  
January 20.

From the General Secretary of NASUWT

Sir, Richard Morrison paints a false picture of the state of music and art teaching in schools in order to try and justify the recent proposals from the NCC. School children will not embrace the music and art of their own culture, let alone of different ones, by having information stuffed into their heads and being forced to sit passively listening to composers like Stravinsky.

The more practical approach of modern times has inspired a much greater interest in music and the arts than was the case in the supposed golden age to which government, and apparently Richard Morrison, wish to return. They ignore the mountain of evidence, witnessed by thousands of enthralled parents, of the high standards and variety of musical ability displayed by countless school orchestras up and down the land.

Yours faithfully,  
NIGEL de GRUCHY,  
General Secretary, NASUWT  
(The Career Teachers' Organisation),  
5 King Street, Covent Garden, WC2.  
January 17.

## History of Europe

From Mr Frederic Delouche

Sir, *L'Histoire de l'Europe* is not "a curious EC-subsidised volume", as described in your leader. History lessons (January 20). Although we applied for a subsidy from the EC we received none.

Nor was it "originally conceived by socialist MEPs". It was conceived seven years ago by me, a private citizen (who is neither socialist nor an MEP) who believes that an understanding by Europeans of their shared history in promoting "institutions, customs and values", as you say, is a prerequisite to greater European integration.

It would be preferable for *The Times* to criticise the "fallacious grand theory" of "this dubious chronicle" after reading it. I hope that British readers will have a chance to decide for themselves if and when, which I hope will be soon, we find a British publisher.

Yours faithfully,  
FREDERIC DELOUCHE,  
12 Avenue Pierre 1<sup>er</sup> de Serbie,  
75116 Paris.

## Toujours la politesse?

From Mr Robin Ward

Sir, I call the waiter *Monsieur* or, if young, *Jeune homme* but never *garçon*. I call the doctor *Monsieur*, as do the nurses. I use a man's title the first time — *Monsieur le Maître* — after which it is simply *Monsieur*. I do not call the postperson *Monsieur* as she is a woman: I call her *Madame*. All other women I come in contact with are for me either *Mademoiselle* or *Madame*.

I am lost when I go to England. I have not heard the word *Sir* since the end of the second world war. What do I call the porter, the waiter, the ticket collector, the barman?

Yours truly,  
ROBIN WARD,  
Lou Casau,  
Route du Mont Chauve,  
06950 Falicon, France,  
January 20.











# Caught in pastel colours



Low-key confrontation: Le Phillips, Sian Phillips (centre) and Josie Lawrence in *Painting Churches*

## THEATRE

### Painting Churches Playhouse

WHEN I reviewed Tina Howe's play at Southampton last year, I accused the title of being misleading, suggesting as it does a pastoral trek with bike, water-colouring kit and copy of Pevsner. That now seems to me an errant judgment. The Churches in question are actually Boston Brahmins, a venerable poet, his wayward, eccentric wife. Yet Howe depicts them as if they were ecclesiastical folk, their antique stonework amiably decaying in the twilight. This is not a play with tension, momentum or, for that matter, plot. For those interested in sensitive, wispy-hued portraiture, it will serve pretty nicely.

In fact, the painter is the Churches' daughter Mag, who is preparing for her first New York show by capturing her parents on canvas. It is a low-key version of the kind of confrontation to be found in many American plays these days. Mag harbours residual grudges against her parents, especially her mother, who still cannot see her without criticising her hair, her ardent friends and her failure to secure herself a society spouse. In turn, her mother feels that Mag is neglecting the two of them, especially her father, who is already into the dawn of his senility. But there is no great need to worry. They all love and respect each other really.

Howe doubtless reaches this comforting conclusion too easily. Yet she is laudably even-handed when it comes to adjudicating between the

generations. When Sian Phillips as Philip launches casual insults at her daughter's work, or suddenly cackles in cranky amusement at her husband's worsening incontinence, Josie Lawrence's dour Mag seems all too justified in accusing her of being "in a class of your own when it comes to humiliation". But a woman revealed to be singlehandedly looking after a man reduced to wearing nappies may be forgiven the odd burst of tactlessness or black humour. By the end it is the daughter, not the mother, who is looking self-indulgent.

At Southampton Rosemary Harris played Panny, and proved more effective at suggesting the love she fundamentally felt for Frank Middlemass's blundering Gardner Church than at embodying the character's destructive gleam. Sian Phillips is tougher and more unpredictable, but only a little less devoted to what is now Leslie Phillips, with his many beard and crazy, under-tilted vowels. She leads the three-person cast with an authority and panache that seemed the more impressive for the very subdued first-

night audience unsmilingly facing them across the footlights. If there is a problem it is more with the play than with Patrick Sandford's production, but probably more with the Atlantic ocean than with either. Sweetly sad family plays that touch and amuse New York—and this one survived there for months and months—tend to find London a flimsy habitat. *Painting Churches*, for all its delicate observation, may be in for an uncomfortable ride.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

## European Women's Orchestra/Martinez

### St John's, Smith Square

FROM the sound alone, it is possible to tell that an orchestra consists entirely of women? In the case of the European Women's Orchestra it undoubtedly is, although that may have much to do with the principles on which Odaline de la Martinez's orchestra is founded.

The EWO was established in 1990 with the intention of stimulating interest in women composers and suggesting alternatives to the gender-related power structures of western musical life. The consequences for the actual sound they produce are fundamental. Their style of music-making is less glossy, less driven, more cooperative; communication is at a premium. It is a style that makes an eloquent case for the D major Piano Concerto of Mozart's contemporary Amalie-Julie Candeille, an engaging piece of no great pretension whose sensibility would easily be engulfed under more conventional performance conditions. Diana Ambache was the capable soloist.

Martinez's own Five Russian Songs, on texts by Marina Tsvetayeva, juxtaposed two distinct

idioms without convincingly integrating them: one nervous, rapidly dissonant; the other folksy and almost sentimental. Only in the final song, "Tonight I Am Alone", was a mood of nostalgia and loneliness embodied with any real persuasiveness in either the vocal line or its accompaniment. Fiona Baines projected the texts with confidence and a warm, clear tone. Rather less confident was the solo playing of the orchestra's leader, Ann Hooley, in the Elegy for Violin and Strings by Helen Glatz. Evidently influenced by Vaughan Williams and Kodály, respectively Glatz's teacher and friend, the Elegy must have seemed even more old-fashioned in 1967, when it was written, than in our own less iconoclastic time. Yet it is a well-crafted piece and a moving tribute to a deceased colleague.

By contrast the final item, Lindsay Cooper's Saxophone Concerto, had a striking individuality, a presence, previously lacking. Cooper, who played the work herself, exploits jazz rhythms and electronics to telling effect: the long, slow, syncretized build-up in the second section is especially skilfully controlled. But it is the simple eloquence of the opening and closing sections that lodges in the memory: the plaintive tone of the soprano saxophone can rarely have been put to more expressive use.

BARRY MILLINGTON

## Philip Glass Festival Hall

THE atmosphere tingles with a huge audience's excited anticipation. The piano sits centre stage; the spotlights merge into an inviting pool ready to receive the master. Confidently, he strides on, looking slightly worn by middle age and overwork, yet still surrounded by an aura of enduring inner youth. His fans respond to his appearance with an almighty round of applause, and there is silence as the hero settles, brisk and business-like, on the piano stool. Philip Glass then begins his first piano recital in this country, and this critic is thrown into a state of appalled amazement that the man can sit there, make such boring music, and be adored.

Glass introduces each piece himself, and sometimes his remarks unintentionally touch the right spot. For instance, at one point he says that he felt uneasy at having to write music simultaneously for two films, one about a man falsely convicted for murder, the other a version of Kafka's *Metamorphoses*. But then, he went on, he realised that the two projects were not so different.

Perhaps for him nothing is very different from anything else. Cer-

tainly five *Metamorphoses*, written specifically for piano and derived from the music for those two films, rings changes in little but tonally. Like everything else in Glass's programme, its irritating oscillations and naive harmonic sequences are repeated and extended ad nauseam. The one attempt at climax, in the fourth piece, turns out to be a pitiful exercise in banality.

Why not allow myself to be killed, like everyone else, by the silliness and quietness of Glass's idiom and willingly admit my brain down? I confess it nearly comes to that in *Animus Mundi*, thanks to Glass's deployment of a seductive triplet rhythm similar to the one which characterises Satie's *Gymnopédies*.

But enough of my conscience remains to realise that around it the music is as bland and directionless as ever. The same applies to the "Fourth Kneel Play" from the opera *Einstein on the Beach* (a piece which Glass admitted he had misjudged), where the unrelenting rhythm of the filling arpeggios leaves even the composer into a serious memory lapse. Of *Planet News*, written to accompany Philip Glass's reading of his anti-Vietnam war poem *William S. Burroughs*, Glass says that when Glaswegian reads everyone forgets that there is any music at all. Quite.

STEPHEN PETTIT

## WEEKEND EVENTS

SCOTTISH OPERA: 1992 brings no let-up on Mozart as far as Scottish Opera is concerned. The company revives John Cox's 1988 production of *The Marriage of Figaro*, designed by John Byrne, restaged by Sally Day, and with Justin Brown in the pit (not Mark Wigglesworth as originally planned). The cast includes Jane Webster as the Countess, Claire Danieles as Susanna, Elizabeth McCormack as Cherubino, Robert Poulton as Figaro and Steven Page as Almaviva. Theatre Royal, Glasgow, 8.15pm, 9.30pm, 10.15pm.

BOBBY WILLIAMS: A long-standing associate of Stan Tracey, the Scottish pop saxophonist displays an impressive technique and powerful sound. In the early 1970s he played in the renowned Tubby Hayes Big Band, and is still rated among the best British rock players. 8.00 Club, 80 Lido Road, London SW10 (071-292 5853), tomorrow, 9.30pm.

LONDON CITY BALLET: The enterprising troupe continues its week in Christening presenting a prancing programme of works: *Glenn Gould*, *Autumn*, *Staircase* and *Peter Dinklage's* *Chaconne*. Everyman Theatre, Regent Street, London W1 (071-492 7271), tonight, 7.45pm, tomorrow, 2pm and 8pm.

EX CATHEDRA: This Birmingham-based choir and baroque orchestra bring a splendid programme of music written for the Royal Chapel at Versailles. There are excerpts from Joseph Haydn's early 18th-century oratorio *Zadok, Rahab and Shema* as well as earlier works by Lully and Michel de Lalande. Jeffrey Siddons directs. St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (071-222 1061), tomorrow, 7.30pm.

FAITH HEALER: The Royal Court presents Joe Dowling's acclaimed production of Brian Friel's subtle and moving play about the artist, his gift and the strength of unspoken bonds between people. Donald Maclean, Shrewsbury and Don Cook play teacher, wife and manager. Opera House, Royal Court, 21-22, St. Martin's Lane, London WC2 (071-338 8891), Sun, 4pm.

GUARANTEED STRING QUARTET: The highly respected American ensemble makes its Barbican debut performing a programme of Haydn (Quartet in E minor, Op. 50, No. 12), Mozart (Quartet in E flat, K.428), and Beethoven (Quartet in E flat, Op. 127). Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-428 8800), tomorrow, 7pm.

STAN TRACEY OCTET: A vital force in the British modern jazz scene since the early 1950s, pianist Stan Tracey is best known for his classic interpretations of Dylan. Thomas in the recording *Under the Wood*, his latest octet features two of the finest pop saxophonists Art Themen and Don Webster. A polished performance of

Beckett: Reviving performances from Derek Jacobi and Robert Lindsay in *Amadeus* play on the relationship between Thomas A. Beckett and Henry II. Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-900 8000), Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Wed, 3pm, 10.15pm.

THE CABINET MINISTER: Derek Nimmo and Maureen Lipman in a snobish, largely unconvincing comedy. Albany, St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-887 1115), Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat. Wed, 3pm, 10.15pm.

DANCING AT LUGHANNA: Brian Friel's Olivier Award-winning memory play, set in 1930s Donegal. Garrys, Channing Cross Road, WC2 (071-434 5055), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm, 10.15pm.

DROWNING: Black women and alcohol: first-rate performance by three actresses from Black Mine Theatre. Regent, comic, entertaining. Young Vic Studio, 68 The Col. SE1 (071-428 8333), Mon-Sat, 8pm, 10.15pm.

A DYBBUK FOR TWO PEOPLE: Bruce Myers, Corinne Jaber play many roles in this *Yiddish* tale of a supernatural, *Amor*, *Amor*, *Amor*. Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW2 (071-722 8001), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 4pm, 10.15pm.

AN EVENING WITH GARY LINKER: Sometimes don't look at the faces of a woman married to a soccer nut. Catherine St. WC2 (071-494 5075), Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 8pm and 6.45pm, 10.15pm.

THE GIULI CONCERT: Barry Foster as obsessed with being an Irish millionaire (Tony Donaghy) in the *Giulio* in Tony Donaghy's powerful tale. Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. 4pm.

THE MADNESS OF GEORGE III: Nigel Harman is very much a stickler, but as a whole, Alan Bennett's play does not tell truth.

BECKETT: Reviving performances from Derek Jacobi and Robert Lindsay in *Amadeus* play on the relationship between Thomas A. Beckett and Henry II. Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-900 8000), Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Wed, 3pm, 10.15pm.

THE CABINET MINISTER: Derek Nimmo and Maureen Lipman in a snobish, largely unconvincing comedy. Albany, St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-887 1115), Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat. Wed, 3pm, 10.15pm.

DANCING AT LUGHANNA: Brian Friel's Olivier Award-winning memory play, set in 1930s Donegal. Garrys, Channing Cross Road, WC2 (071-434 5055), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm, 10.15pm.

DROWNING: Black women and alcohol: first-rate performance by three actresses from Black Mine Theatre. Regent, comic, entertaining. Young Vic Studio, 68 The Col. SE1 (071-428 8333), Mon-Sat, 8pm, 10.15pm.

A DYBBUK FOR TWO PEOPLE: Bruce Myers, Corinne Jaber play many roles in this *Yiddish* tale of a supernatural, *Amor*, *Amor*, *Amor*. Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW2 (071-722 8001), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 4pm, 10.15pm.

AN EVENING WITH GARY LINKER: Sometimes don't look at the faces of a woman married to a soccer nut. Catherine St. WC2 (071-494 5075), Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 8pm and 6.45pm, 10.15pm.

THE GIULI CONCERT: Barry Foster as obsessed with being an Irish millionaire (Tony Donaghy) in the *Giulio* in Tony Donaghy's powerful tale. Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. 4pm.

THE MADNESS OF GEORGE III: Nigel Harman is very much a stickler, but as a whole, Alan Bennett's play does not tell truth.

BECKETT: Reviving performances from Derek Jacobi and Robert Lindsay in *Amadeus* play on the relationship between Thomas A. Beckett and Henry II. Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-900 8000), Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Wed, 3pm, 10.15pm.

THE CABINET MINISTER: Derek Nimmo and Maureen Lipman in a snobish, largely unconvincing comedy. Albany, St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-887 1115), Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat. Wed, 3pm, 10.15pm.

DANCING AT LUGHANNA: Brian Friel's Olivier Award-winning memory play, set in 1930s Donegal. Garrys, Channing Cross Road, WC2 (071-434 5055), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm, 10.15pm.

DROWNING: Black women and alcohol: first-rate performance by three actresses from Black Mine Theatre. Regent, comic, entertaining. Young Vic Studio, 68 The Col. SE1 (071-428 8333), Mon-Sat, 8pm, 10.15pm.

A DYBBUK FOR TWO PEOPLE: Bruce Myers, Corinne Jaber play many roles in this *Yiddish* tale of a supernatural, *Amor*, *Amor*, *Amor*. Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW2 (071-722 8001), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 4pm, 10.15pm.

AN EVENING WITH GARY LINKER: Sometimes don't look at the faces of a woman married to a soccer nut. Catherine St. WC2 (071-494 5075), Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 8pm and 6.45pm, 10.15pm.

THE GIULI CONCERT: Barry Foster as obsessed with being an Irish millionaire (Tony Donaghy) in the *Giulio* in Tony Donaghy's powerful tale. Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. 4pm.

THE MADNESS OF GEORGE III: Nigel Harman is very much a stickler, but as a whole, Alan Bennett's play does not tell truth.

BECKETT: Reviving performances from Derek Jacobi and Robert Lindsay in *Amadeus* play on the relationship between Thomas A. Beckett and Henry II. Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-900 8000), Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Wed, 3pm, 10.15pm.

THE CABINET MINISTER: Derek Nimmo and Maureen Lipman in a snobish, largely unconvincing comedy. Albany, St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-887 1115), Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat. Wed, 3pm, 10.15pm.

DANCING AT LUGHANNA: Brian Friel's Olivier Award-winning memory play, set in 1930s Donegal. Garrys, Channing Cross Road, WC2 (071-434 5055), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm, 10.15pm.

DROWNING: Black women and alcohol: first-rate performance by three actresses from Black Mine Theatre. Regent, comic, entertaining. Young Vic Studio, 68 The Col. SE1 (071-428 8333), Mon-Sat, 8pm, 10.15pm.

A DYBBUK FOR TWO PEOPLE: Bruce Myers, Corinne Jaber play many roles in this *Yiddish* tale of a supernatural, *Amor*, *Amor*, *Amor*. Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW2 (071-722 8001), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 4pm, 10.15pm.

AN EVENING WITH GARY LINKER: Sometimes don't look at the faces of a woman married to a soccer nut. Catherine St. WC2 (071-494 5075), Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 8pm and 6.45pm, 10.15pm.

THE GIULI CONCERT: Barry Foster as obsessed with being an Irish millionaire (Tony Donaghy) in the *Giulio* in Tony Donaghy's powerful tale. Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. 4pm.

THE MADNESS OF GEORGE III: Nigel Harman is very much a stickler, but as a whole, Alan Bennett's play does not tell truth.

BECKETT: Reviving performances from Derek Jacobi and Robert Lindsay in *Amadeus* play on the relationship between Thomas A. Beckett and Henry II. Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-900 8000), Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Wed, 3pm, 10.15pm.

THE CABINET MINISTER: Derek Nimmo and Maureen Lipman in a snobish, largely unconvincing comedy. Albany, St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-887 1115), Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat. Wed, 3pm, 10.15pm.

DANCING AT LUGHANNA: Brian Friel's Olivier Award-winning memory play, set in 1930s Donegal. Garrys, Channing Cross Road, WC2 (071-434 5055), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm, 10.15pm.

DROWNING: Black women and alcohol: first-rate performance by three actresses from Black Mine Theatre. Regent, comic, entertaining. Young Vic Studio, 68 The Col. SE1 (071-428 8333), Mon-Sat, 8pm, 10.15pm.

A DYBBUK FOR TWO PEOPLE: Bruce Myers, Corinne Jaber play many roles in this *Yiddish* tale of a supernatural, *Amor*, *Amor*, *Amor*. Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW2 (071-722 8001), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 4pm, 10.15pm.

AN EVENING WITH GARY LINKER: Sometimes don't look at the faces of a woman married to a soccer nut. Catherine St. WC2 (071-494 5075), Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 8pm and 6.45pm, 10.15pm.

THE GIULI CONCERT: Barry Foster as obsessed with being an Irish millionaire (Tony Donaghy) in the *Giulio* in Tony Donaghy's powerful tale. Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. 4pm.

THE MADNESS OF GEORGE III: Nigel Harman is very much a stickler, but as a whole, Alan Bennett's play does not tell truth.

## THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current theatre in London

House full, returns only

Some seats available

Seats at all prices

National (Lyttelton), South Bank, London SE1 (071-428 8800), tonight, 7.30pm, mat. tomorrow, 2.15pm, 10.15pm.

THE MYSTERY OF MARIA MARTEN: Chris Brown's entertaining detective comedy re-opens a famous 19th-century murder case. Warehouse, Dringway Road, East Croydon (081-680 4080), Tues-Sat, 8pm, 10.15pm.

ONCE A CATHOLIC: Welcome return of Mary J. O'Malley's romping comedy about a young girl growing up between nuns and taddy boys. Troiloff, 268 Kilburn High Road, NW6 (020 261 1520), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 4pm, 10.15pm.

PHANTOM OF THE OPERA: Glorious version of the old thriller: tunes by Offenbach, Ward and Webster but not Lloyd Webber. Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5393), Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm, 10.15pm.

THE RIDE DOWN MT MORGAN: Arthur Miller's despairingly one-sided play about Tom Cantel's case for bigamy. Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-428 8800), Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 2.30pm, 10.15pm.

SOPHISTICATED LADIES: Twelve singer-comedians whirl through the music of Duke Ellington. Obvious routines cannot disguise the true talent. Duke, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-428 8800), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 4pm, 10.15pm.

LIBERTY: Mike Figg's dark, wild tale of love, death and passion in a Victorian London. Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-428 8800), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 4pm, 10.15pm.

LITTLE MAN TATE (PG): How and how not to rear a child prodigy. An engaging young player (Adam Harris) and sensible direction (Julia Foster) really off the face. Haymarket (071-428 8800).

MATADOR (18): Murder, high fashion, and anti-Catholic bias from the inimitable Pedro Almodóvar. Made in 1988, *Matador* (020 261 1520).

PROOF (15): A blind man's photographs bring emotional complications. Intriguing entertainment from two Australian directors. Jocelyn Moorhead. With Hugh Weaving. *Proof* (071-428 8800).

TOTO THE HERO (15): Juicy, absurdist comedy about youth, old age and his wife's disappearance. *Toto* (071-428 8800).

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA: Glorious version of the old thriller: tunes by Offenbach, Ward and Webster but not Lloyd Webber. Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5393), Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm, 10.15pm.

THE RIDE DOWN MT MORGAN: Arthur Miller's despairingly one-sided play about Tom Cantel's case for bigamy. Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-428 8800), Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 2.30pm, 10.15pm.

SOPHISTICATED LADIES: Twelve singer-comedians whirl through the music of Duke Ellington. Obvious routines cannot disguise the true talent. Duke, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-428 8800), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 4pm, 10.15pm.

LIBERTY: Mike Figg's dark, wild tale of love, death and passion in a Victorian London. Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-428 8800), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 4pm, 10.15pm.

LITTLE MAN TATE (PG): How and how not to rear a child prodigy. An engaging young player (Adam Harris) and sensible direction (Julia Foster) really off the face. Haymarket (071-428 8800).

MATADOR (18): Murder, high fashion, and anti-Catholic bias from the inimitable Pedro Almodóvar. Made in 1988, *Matador* (020 261 1520).

PROOF (15): A blind man's photographs bring emotional complications. Intriguing entertainment from two Australian directors. Jocelyn Moorhead. With Hugh Weaving. *Proof* (071-428 8800).

TOTO THE HERO (15): Juicy, absurdist comedy about youth, old age and his wife's disappearance. *Toto* (071-428 8800).

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA: Glorious version of the old thriller: tunes by Offenbach, Ward and Webster but not Lloyd Webber. Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5393), Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm, 10.15pm.

THE RIDE DOWN MT MORGAN: Arthur Miller's despairingly one-sided play about Tom Cantel's case for bigamy. Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-428 8800), Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 2.30pm, 10.15pm.

SOPHISTICATED LADIES: Twelve singer-comedians whirl through the music of Duke Ellington. Obvious routines cannot disguise the true talent. Duke, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-428 8800), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 4pm, 10.15pm.

LIBERTY: Mike Figg's dark, wild tale of love, death and passion in a Victorian London. Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-428 8800), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 4pm, 10.15pm.

LITTLE MAN TATE (PG): How and how not to rear a child prodigy. An engaging young player (Adam Harris) and sensible direction (Julia Foster) really off the face. Haymarket (071-428 8800).

MATADOR (18): Murder, high fashion, and anti-Catholic bias from the inimitable Pedro Almodóvar. Made in 1988, *Matador* (020 261 1520).

PROOF (15): A blind man's photographs bring emotional complications. Intriguing entertainment from two Australian directors. Jocelyn Moorhead. With Hugh Weaving. *Proof* (071-428 8800).

TOTO THE HERO (15): Juicy, absurdist comedy about youth, old age and his wife's disappearance. *Toto* (071-428 8800).

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA: Glorious version of the old thriller: tunes by Offenbach, Ward and Webster but not Lloyd Webber. Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5393), Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm, 10.15pm.

THE RIDE DOWN MT MORGAN: Arthur Miller's despairingly one-sided play about Tom Cantel's case for bigamy. Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-428 8800), Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 2.30pm, 10.15pm.

SOPHISTICATED LADIES: Twelve singer-comedians whirl through the music of Duke Ellington. Obvious routines cannot disguise the true talent. Duke, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-428 8800), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 4pm, 10.15pm.

LIBERTY: Mike Figg's dark, wild tale of love, death and passion in a Victorian London. Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-428 8800), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 4pm, 10.15pm.

LITTLE MAN TATE (PG): How and how not to rear a child prodigy. An engaging young player (Adam Harris) and sensible direction (Julia Foster) really off the face. Haymarket (071-428 8800).

MATADOR (18): Murder, high fashion, and anti-Catholic bias from the inimitable Pedro Almodóvar. Made in 1988, *Matador* (020 261 1520).

PROOF (15): A blind man's photographs bring emotional complications. Intriguing entertainment from two Australian directors. Jocelyn Moorhead. With Hugh Weaving. *Proof* (071-428 8800).

TOTO THE HERO (15): Juicy, absurdist comedy about youth, old age and his wife's disappearance. *Toto* (071-428 8800).

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA: Glorious version of the old thriller: tunes by Offenbach, Ward and Webster but not Lloyd Webber. Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5393), Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm, 10.15pm.

THE RIDE DOWN MT MORGAN: Arthur Miller's despairingly one



6.00 Ceeba (22076)  
6.30 Breakfast News begins with Business Breakfast until 6.55 when Laurie Meyer and Jill Dando present news and topical reports with regular business, sport, weather, regional news and travel bulletins (8007453)  
9.05 Kilroy, Robert: Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on mixed marriages (4457365) 9.50 Hot Chicks, Ruth Rogers and Rose Gay prepare bolito mado with salsa di dragoncello and lentils (2222415)  
10.00 News, regional news and weather (8412219) 10.05 Playdays. For the very young (s) (3122231) 10.25 Stop! and Tidyup. Animation. Narrated by Tony Wogan (s) (3222736) 10.35 No Kidding. Family quiz show (s) (1955522)  
11.00 News, regional news and weather 11.05 Travel Show Extra. Holiday ideas from Eastbourne, Stirling, Snowdonia and Morocco (7515115) 11.30 People Today. With Nina Myskow, Nigel Dempster and Russell Grant (8077873)  
12.20 The Big Breakfast. Chat and music, the latest provided by the Swingles (2221252) 12.25 Regional News and weather (s) (7250895)  
1.00 One O'Clock News and weather (15553)  
1.30 Neighbours. (Ceeba) (s) (3422335)  
1.50 Film: When the Legends Die (1972). Fine western, rich on atmosphere and strongly acted, about the relationship between a fading, alcoholic rodeo star (Richard Widmark) and a young Indian (Felicite Forrest). He betrays. Directed by Stuart Miller (8723118)  
3.30 Cartoons (s) (5915922) 3.50 Blues. Ideas on recycling household junk (s) (5915922) 4.05 Jeopardy. Dawn French with the last part of M.J. Robson's 'Daisy Pig' (8050577) 4.30 The Further Adventures of SuperTed (s) (517724) 4.30 Hanger 17. Variety hosted by Mickey Hargrett (s) (804076)  
4.55 Newsround Extra (7823222) 5.05 Garage Hill. Children's school drama series. (Ceeba) (s) (6458227)  
5.35 Neighbours (s) (Ceeba) (s) (461322) Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster  
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Anna Ford. (Ceeba) (s) (811)  
6.30 Regional News: Neighbours (183). Northern Ireland: 7.00 Wogan. The guests are Sue Lawley, Patricia Hodge and Alan Cogan. Music is provided by Buffy Sainte-Marie (s) (205237)  
7.35 Harry and the Hendersons. Comedy series imported from the United States (Ceeba) (s) (336076) Northern Ireland: Adventure - Ring of Fire (Ceeba) (s) (336076)  
8.00 Grace and Favour. The stars of Are You Being Served? have been uprooted from the shop floor to a country mansion. Unfortunately, the jokes are the same. Starring Wendy Richard, John Inman and Mollie Sugden (Ceeba) (s) (9057)  
8.30 Caught in the Act. Shane Richie introduces amateur video outtakes from home and abroad. (Ceeba) (s) (1882)  
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. (Ceeba) Regional news and weather (8786)  
9.30 Love Hurts: Relative Values. Adam Faith, Zoe Wanamaker and Jane Lapotnik star in the fourth episode of the romantic drama series. Tessa finally agrees to have dinner with Frank. (Ceeba) (s) (315569)  
10.20 Flame Harry and Son (1984) starring Paul Newman and Robby Benson. A poignant family drama following the relationship of a hard-working father and his hedonistic son who seem to have nothing in common. Newman also directs. (Ceeba) (823057) Northern Ireland: Sportsweek 10.45 Film: Harry Sundown

12.15am European Figure Skating. Barry Davies introduces the free skate routines from Lausanne, Switzerland (805445)  
1.05 Weather (805922). Northern Ireland: 1.00-1.30 Stirling  
VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

Begging to differ: Robby Benson and Paul Newman (10.20pm)  
12.15am European Figure Skating. Barry Davies introduces the free skate routines from Lausanne, Switzerland (805445)  
1.05 Weather (805922). Northern Ireland: 1.00-1.30 Stirling

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most video. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 121204 (calls charged at 45p per minute plus 35p per page) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, Pluscode (P) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

6.00 BBC Breakfast News (186992)  
6.15 Westminster. A round-up of news from both Houses (500521)  
6.30 Daytime on 2. Educational programmes  
6.00 News and weather (1823482) followed by Words and Pictures. Reading for five to seven-year-olds (s) (3400057)  
2.20 Sport on Friday with Helen Rollins. Includes coverage of the European Figure Skating Championships from Lausanne, with commentary by Alan Woots and Christopher Dean; and Trevor Brooking picks out his winners from the weekend FA Cup fourth round ties. With News and weather at 3.00 and 3.55 (3552811)  
4.35 Catchword. Paul Cole with another round of the game for wordsmiths (s) (5351540)  
5.05 Behind the Headlines. Shyma Perera discusses the 50th anniversary of Errol Flynn's Famous Five books with her biographer Barbara Stoney and her daughter Imogen Smallwood (8455555)  
5.35 The Clothes Show (s) (Ceeba) (s) (261304)  
6.00 Thunderbirds. Cut puppet series. (Ceeba) (s) (874589)  
6.50 Dr Who (b/w). The last in the fourth part adventure The Time Monster. First seen in 1965, starring William Hartnell, Maureen O'Brien and Peter Purves (s) (318057)  
7.15 100%. Magazine programme for teenagers. This week's topics include teenage suicide and tribalism in Sweden (s) (702238)  
8.00 Wind on the Willows.  
© CHOICE: Kenneth Grahame fan Alan Bennett narrates a real story of the riverbank with his own rattle and moles. We are in Somerset, among the levels and moors and debates about the environment. On the one side are the conservationists, determined to keep the water levels high to attract wildlife. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds has been busy buying up land and will soon own 1,000 of the 2,500 acres of wet Sedgemoor. English Nature is trying to persuade farmers to return to pastoral farming. But this has traditionally been a dry area and farmers do not want to be told what they should be doing. Nor do the willow growers. Somerset's oldest industry, who harvest their crop in winter and need access to the land. Another point of contention is a plan to open up the waterways for a 100-mile pleasure boating circuit (2417)  
8.30 Old Garden, New Gardener. Geoff Hamilton and Gay Search with advice for the novice gardener. This week - beating the weeds and encouraging existing plants (Ceeba) (s) (9434)  
9.00 Victoria Wood - As Seen on TV. The comedienne in a re-run of her first series from 1985, including an edition of the spoof soap Acorn Antiques. With Julia Walters, Celia Imrie, Duncan Preston, Sue Blake and Patricia Routledge (s) (805305)  
9.30 Arson: Billy, How Did You Do It? The second of three conversations with film director and writer Billy Wilder covers Wilder's work during the 1940s and 1950s, including Sunset Boulevard which is showing at 12.05am. There are witty recollections of Gloria Swanson, Mae West, Humphrey Bogart and Gary Cooper (12827)  
10.30 Newsnight with Peter Snow (52453)  
11.15 What the Papers Say, with freelance journalist John Diamond (454250)  
11.30 Scrutiny. Ian McWhirter follows the work of parliamentary committees (45415) 12.00 Weather (8897125)



Spellbound: Gloria Swanson entices William Holden (12.05am)

12.05am Film: Sunset Boulevard (b/w, 1950)  
© CHOICE: Showing in tandem with the three-part Arson profile, Billy Wilder's most celebrated film is an arid examination of Hollywood by Hollywood and featuring a raft of cinema greats. Buster Keaton is there and so is H.B. Warner who played Erich von Stroheim and Cecil B. de Mille. The directors' film is a masterpiece. Above all there is Gloria Swanson, with a triumphantly flamboyant performance as a silent star who has lost her glitter and some of her marbles. William Holden represents the younger generation, as a failed scriptwriter who comes under Swanson's spell. In the film's most famous line, Swanson observes: "I am big. It's the pictures that got smaller." When Sunset Boulevard was made, the cinema was barely half a century old. Already it was paying homage to the potency of its own myths (183007)  
1.55 Behind the Headlines (s) (883816). Ends at 2.30

12.05am Film: Sunset Boulevard (b/w, 1950)  
© CHOICE: Showing in tandem with the three-part Arson profile, Billy Wilder's most celebrated film is an arid examination of Hollywood by Hollywood and featuring a raft of cinema greats. Buster Keaton is there and so is H.B. Warner who played Erich von Stroheim and Cecil B. de Mille. The directors' film is a masterpiece. Above all there is Gloria Swanson, with a triumphantly flamboyant performance as a silent star who has lost her glitter and some of her marbles. William Holden represents the younger generation, as a failed scriptwriter who comes under Swanson's spell. In the film's most famous line, Swanson observes: "I am big. It's the pictures that got smaller." When Sunset Boulevard was made, the cinema was barely half a century old. Already it was paying homage to the potency of its own myths (183007)  
1.55 Behind the Headlines (s) (883816). Ends at 2.30

12.05am Film: Sunset Boulevard (b/w, 1950)  
© CHOICE: Showing in tandem with the three-part Arson profile, Billy Wilder's most celebrated film is an arid examination of Hollywood by Hollywood and featuring a raft of cinema greats. Buster Keaton is there and so is H.B. Warner who played Erich von Stroheim and Cecil B. de Mille. The directors' film is a masterpiece. Above all there is Gloria Swanson, with a triumphantly flamboyant performance as a silent star who has lost her glitter and some of her marbles. William Holden represents the younger generation, as a failed scriptwriter who comes under Swanson's spell. In the film's most famous line, Swanson observes: "I am big. It's the pictures that got smaller." When Sunset Boulevard was made, the cinema was barely half a century old. Already it was paying homage to the potency of its own myths (183007)  
1.55 Behind the Headlines (s) (883816). Ends at 2.30

12.05am Film: Sunset Boulevard (b/w, 1950)  
© CHOICE: Showing in tandem with the three-part Arson profile, Billy Wilder's most celebrated film is an arid examination of Hollywood by Hollywood and featuring a raft of cinema greats. Buster Keaton is there and so is H.B. Warner who played Erich von Stroheim and Cecil B. de Mille. The directors' film is a masterpiece. Above all there is Gloria Swanson, with a triumphantly flamboyant performance as a silent star who has lost her glitter and some of her marbles. William Holden represents the younger generation, as a failed scriptwriter who comes under Swanson's spell. In the film's most famous line, Swanson observes: "I am big. It's the pictures that got smaller." When Sunset Boulevard was made, the cinema was barely half a century old. Already it was paying homage to the potency of its own myths (183007)  
1.55 Behind the Headlines (s) (883816). Ends at 2.30

12.05am Film: Sunset Boulevard (b/w, 1950)  
© CHOICE: Showing in tandem with the three-part Arson profile, Billy Wilder's most celebrated film is







# THE TIMES BUSINESS

FRIDAY JANUARY 24 1992

BUSINESS EDITOR JOHN BELL

- BUSINESS NEWS 21-28
- YOUR OWN BUSINESS 29
- MOTORING 31
- SPORT 32-36

Dealers stunned as final dividend is cut and first interim is withheld

## Lonrho reports 24% fall after market close

By COLIN CAMPBELL

LONRHO, the international trading conglomerate, left the market in a state of "stunned amazement" when it delayed its 1991 profits announcement until after market hours and then revealed that pre-tax profits for the year had fallen by 24.1 per cent to £207 million, and that the final dividend was cut from 8p to 5p a share.

The group further shocked analysts with news that, "exceptionally, Lonrho will withhold the first interim dividend of 3p this year". The first interim is traditionally declared and paid at the same time as the final, so effectively the payment to shareholders is more than halved, from 11p a share to 5p.

Lonrho shares, which had risen 13p to 167p earlier in the day when hopes were raised by the group's sale of its share in the Kühne & Nagel business, fell sharply after the 4.30pm announcement. In after hours trading, they were quoted at 115p — a fall of 39p — to test levels not seen since 1986.

The group's total 1991 pay-

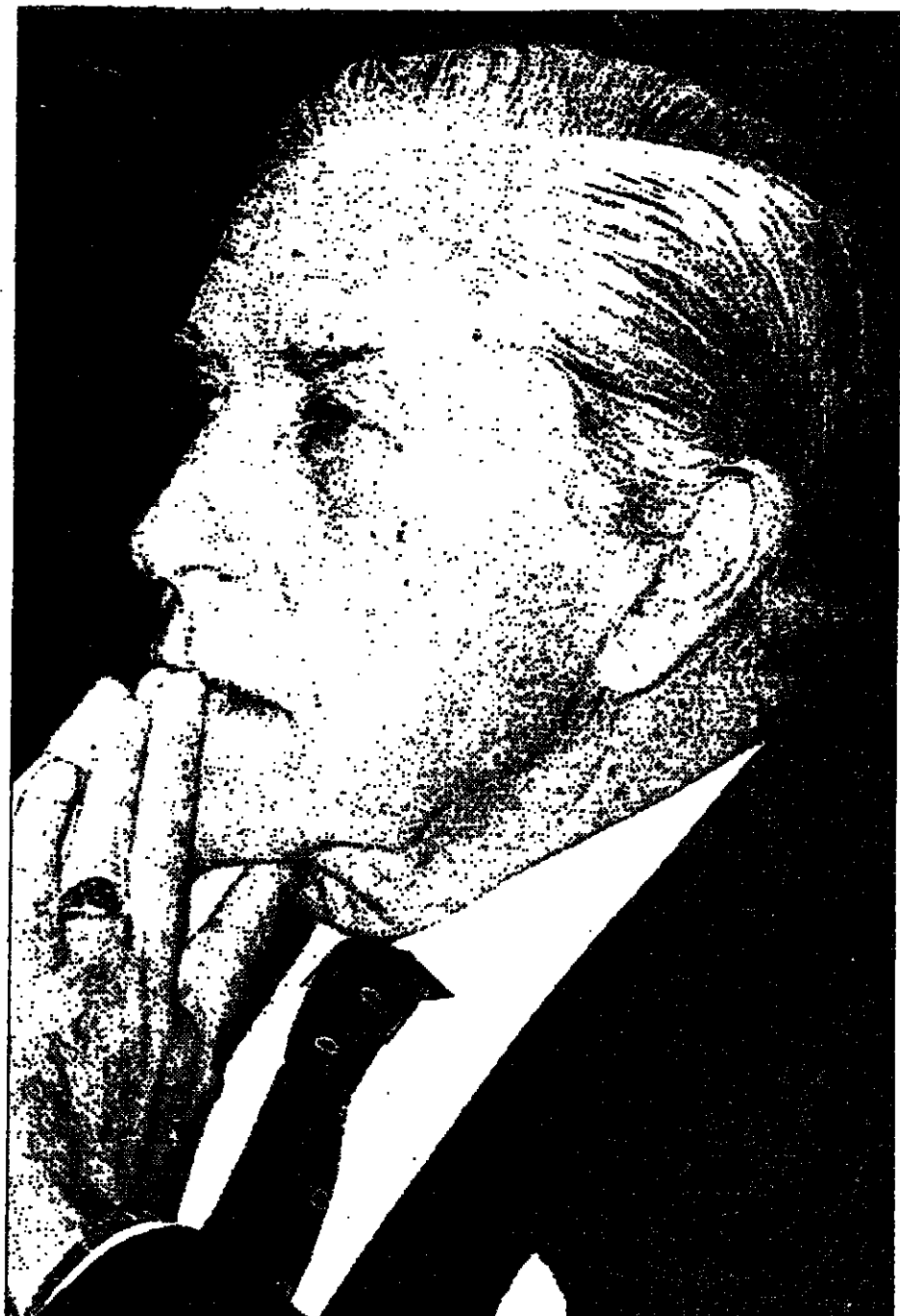
ment at 13p a share compares with equivalent dividends totalling 15.7p for 1990, and will cost Lonrho £84 million. Tiny Rowland, Lonrho's chief executive, sees his dividend income on 92.1 million shares clipped by £2.76 million following the decision to cut the 1991 final.

He also suffers from Lonrho's decision to "withhold the first interim dividend of 3p this year" following the drop in pre-tax profits from £273 million to £207 million for the year to end-September. Net earnings turn out at 14.2p a share against 23.6p a share. Net asset value at September 30 was 204p a share (216p).

Analysts said they were stunned not only that the dividend was cut but also because the profits outcome was below forecasts.

During trading hours, Lonrho announced the sale of its 50 per cent stake in the German freight group Kühne & Nagel for DM340 million. The sale encouraged even the doubtful and at one point Lonrho shares reached 167p, up 13p.

Lonrho's activities embrace gold and platinum



Pause for thought: Tiny Rowland reflects on Lonrho's disappointing results

## Staff to be cut by 800 at Sun Alliance

By NEIL BENNETT

SUN Alliance, Britain's largest composite insurance group, is shedding 800 jobs and closing more than a third of its branch network in an effort to reduce costs.

The company confirmed yesterday that it plans to reduce its staff by 6 per cent to 13,000 this year. This will include the 300 jobs that will be lost with the closure of 39 small branches over the next five months.

A spokeswoman confirmed that those closures will cause some redundancies, although Sun hopes to redeploy staff and encourage others to take early retirement. After the closures, Sun's non-life sales and customer service operations will be based at 50 branches.

The remainder of the cuts are expected to be made throughout the group's operations, including head office staff and management.

Sun's costs were £462 million in 1990. City analysts estimate that the group is trying to reduce expenses by £25 million. Last year, Sun shed 400 jobs by moving its personal insurance processing to a computerised centre at Oldham, Lancashire.

Sun said that the job losses and closures would have no impact on its profit and loss account this year, but that the benefits would begin to show in 1993. The group said the rationalisation was not linked with heavy losses in the insurance industry.

## Fayed brothers fail to prevent panel hearing

By OUR CITY STAFF

THE Fayed brothers have failed in a High Court attempt to block disciplinary proceedings against them by the City takeover panel in connection with their acquisition of the House of Fraser stores group. Lord Justice Watkins rejected their application for a judicial review, saying their case was "unavailing". The Fayed brothers are considering an appeal.

David Oliver, QC, for Mohammed, Salah and Ali Fayed, argued that the disciplinary hearing should be adjourned until after the conclusion of a court action launched against the Fayed brothers by the House of Fraser, where Tiny Rowland is chief executive. Lonrho lost a 1985 takeover

battle for House of Fraser, which includes Harrods.

Mr Oliver said it would be "a travesty of justice" if the enquiry went ahead before the court case. Lonrho alleges fraud and claims damages for conspiracy and "unlawful interference with business" by the Fayed brothers and their financial adviser.

Dismissing the application with costs, Lord Justice Watkins said the takeover panel and the Fayed brothers were "in collision".

At the heart of the disciplinary hearing is the question of whether the Fayed brothers made statements about their wealth during the battle for House of Fraser that were misleading.

## Blockbuster wins in its £75m bid for Cityvision

By MARTIN WALLER

BLOCKBUSTER, the American video rental group, has won its £75 million bid for Cityvision, the biggest British rental chain, after the defeat of an institutional revolt at Cityvision.

By the closing date, Blockbuster had acceptances for more than 50 per cent of the shares allowing the offer to go unconditional.

Three former executives of Cityvision, including David Quayle, founder of the B&Q DIY retail chain, had been attempting to lead a "management vote-in", with support from institutions holding 20 per cent of the shares, and to have existing management removed. Blockbuster's success with its bid will pre-empt this.

Ray Hipkin, one of the three, was philosophical. He said: "We're in the real world — business is business. It's gone and good luck to them."

The rebels are not now expected to contest the result and continue as dissident shareholders, but are likely to accept the bid in respect of their holdings. Mr Hipkin and his partner, Phillip Crane, who sold their video businesses to Cityvision during its swift growth in the late Eighties, hold 350,000 shares between them.

There was relief and some surprise in the Cityvision camp. Existing directors of Cityvision are believed to have been badly rattled by the

support that Mr Hipkin and Mr Crane could draw on. Outsiders had not expected Blockbuster to clinch the bid at the first closing date.

The result is a victory for H Wayne Huizenga, the American entrepreneur who founded Blockbuster after building Waste Management, his first business, into the world's biggest waste disposal group.

The rebels had intended to appoint two new non-executive directors, including Mr Quayle as chairman, to take share options at the 48p cash price on offer from Blockbuster and to sell Sunray. Mr Hipkin's 24-store video chain, to Cityvision at an independent valuation. They had been planning to challenge the existing board at a forthcoming extraordinary meeting.

## City downgrades Burton

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

BURTON Group, the fashion retailer where Laurence Cooklin is chief executive, has been downgraded by analysts after shareholders were told at the annual meeting that sales in the first half of the year were only 1 per cent better than in the same period last year.

The figure includes a 5 per cent rise in Christmas sales, achieved by discounting prices and at some expense to the gross margin.

Burton's news was received with mixed feelings by retail analysts but led to a series of profit downgradings even by

the more bullish followers of the stock. Paul Morris, of Goldman Sachs, cut his forecast for the year to end August from £22 million to £18 million. A buyer of Burton, he says any sales increase must be viewed positively.

"Because Burton is so highly operationally geared, a 1 per cent movement on the sales line affects profits by £8 million," he said.

Karlan Cook, of County NatWest, rates the shares a "sell" and cut her profit forecast heavily. Most of the City is looking for profits between £10 million and £15 million.



Cooklin: sales edge up

## Food for thought at Christmas

By OUR CITY STAFF

CHRISTMAS hampers and office cleaning appear to be two businesses which are recession-proof, judging by figures announced yesterday. Park Foods and MITIE Group appear not only to be surviving the recession, but thriving on it.

Park Foods saw its share price jump 12.5 per cent to 483p yesterday on a bullish statement about its Christmas hamper business, while MITIE Group, the engineering, cleaning and maintenance company, is reaping the benefits as numerous companies, under pressure from the economic downturn, cut their own ancillary service operations and put them out for tender.

Park runs a scheme whereby customers subscribe a few pounds a week throughout the year and receive a Christmas hamper packed with goodies in December. When times are tough, customers find the enforced weekly saving of a small sum easier to accommo-

date than a one-off larger purchase. With the threat of redundancy looming over so many households, Park's customers know that at least Christmas will be assured.

The group sold 1.4 million hampers last Christmas, with the average spend per customer rising by 33 per cent. This has allowed Park to forecast an increase in the total dividend of 62 per cent in the current year. Peter Johnson, the group's chairman, who owns around 70 per cent of the company, will be entitled to £900,000 in dividends.

Park, which made a traditional first-half pre-tax loss of £4.39 million, is on course to make full-year profits of around £6 million in the current year, up from £3.99 million last time.

MITIE Group raised its pre-tax profits by 53 per cent to £726,000 in the six months to end-September. The company says organic growth was largely responsible for its 28 per cent advance in turnover to £22.2 million. The interim dividend is raised from 1p to 1.25p

per share, as earnings climb from 4.9p to 5.1p per share, on an enlarged share capital.

David Telling, MITIE's chief executive said: "In a recession a lot of companies cut ancillary services and put them out for tender; but you have to be competitive. We are increasing our order book in engineering, and more particularly in cleaning. On an annualised basis, we have picked up £7 or £8 million in cleaning orders, with a similar amount for engineering. We are feeling quite confident about the future."

MITIE is also expanding in Scotland, with the acquisition of Trident Maintenance Services, a Scottish commercial painting and decoration business, for up to £2.5 million. There is an initial payment of £400,000 for 58 per cent of Trident, to be satisfied by a vendor placing of 242,000 shares, at 165p per share. Trident made post-tax profits of £33,800 in the year to end-March 1991, with assets of £206,000.

### TODAY IN BUSINESS

#### WIDENING



Sir Sydney Lipworth, chairman of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, expects it to take more interest in privatised companies

Page 23

#### INDEXING

The government is in the same position as a decade ago, with high interest rates and falling inflation. How can it best borrow money?

Page 25

#### DISAPPOINTING



George Bush may be disappointed by German resistance to pressure for lower interest rates at this weekend's G7 meeting

Page 23

#### TOMORROW

#### PROFILE



Peter Jacobs, the chief executive of Bupa, may have an unremarkable appearance, but his strength lies in his ability to motivate a team, Carol Leonard discovers

#### COMPENSATING

Millions of pounds are earning less interest than they should in obsolete accounts. One investor has been compensated

### THE POUND

US dollar 1.7977 (-0.0128)  
German mark 2.8641 (-0.0019)  
Exchange index 90.8 (-0.2)  
Bank of England official close (4pm)

### STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share 1983.5 (+1.7)  
FT-SE 100 2525.3 (+3.3)  
New York Dow Jones 3240.38 (-15.43)  
Tokyo Nikkei Avge 21580.72 (+46.60)

### INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base 10 1/2%  
3-month interbank 10 1/2-10 3/4%  
3-month eligible bills 10 1/2-10 3/4%  
US: Prime Rate 8 1/2%  
Federal Funds 4 1/4%  
3-month Treasury bills 3 1/2-3 3/4%  
30-year bonds 10 1/2-10 3/4%

### CURRENCIES

London: New York  
£ \$1.7955  
£ DM2.9538  
£ Sfr2.5424  
£ FF6.7541  
£ Yen222.46  
£ Index30.6  
ECU 10.712943  
ECU 10.40409  
ECU 10.251778

### GOLD

London Fixing: AM \$355.55 cm \$355.20  
close \$355.75 \$356.25 (£197.90-198.40)  
New York: Comex \$356.15 \$356.65

### NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Feb) ... \$18.10 bid (\$18.10)

### RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 135.7 December (1987=100)  
\* Denotes midday trading price

## THE LIBRA PORTFOLIO SERVICE

A Balance of Skills for Private Investors

- Private portfolio management for investors with £50,000 or currency equivalent
- Asset Allocation determined by Rothschild Asset Management
- Investments made in the highest quality trusts in each market with no commitment to any fund management group
- A wide choice of investment options to suit differing investment objectives

For further information, please complete the form below or telephone (071) 634 2501/2511

To: The Marketing Department,  
Rothschild Asset Management Limited,  
Five Arrows House, St. Swinburn's Lane,  
London EC4A 3NR

Ref. ATT 001.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_ Initials: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

**Rothschild Asset Management Limited**  
Member of IMRO

*The value of portfolios can fall as well as rise and investors may not get back the amount invested.  
In particular, there is a spread between the purchase and sale price of unit trusts.*



# PowerGen import plans put squeeze on British Coal

By DEREK HARRIS

POWERGEN, second largest of Britain's big two power generators, is to build a £40 million coal terminal at Liverpool docks to bring in an extra 5 million tonnes of foreign coal annually.

This and other new terminals importing foreign coal — more environmentally friendly because of lower sulphur content — could meet well over 40 per cent of PowerGen's coal needs, currently 30 million tonnes a year.

It will bring more pressure to bear on British Coal as it prepares to renegotiate long-term supply contracts early next year with PowerGen and National Power, the biggest generator.

National Power is also on track to meet a substantial

proportion of its coal needs from imported low-sulphur supplies. Most coal mined in Britain has a higher sulphur content.

PowerGen's Kingsnorth power station, on the coast of Kent, has terminal facilities that can bring in 5 million tonnes of foreign coal annually.

The company, with National Power, is also negotiating for establishment of a coal imports terminal at Immingham, at the mouth of the River Humber. That would handle about 10 million tonnes of foreign coal a year. PowerGen's expected share would be about 4 million tonnes.

National Power is involved in developing a Bristol docks

terminal, due to start operating in 1994, that can handle up to 5 million tonnes of imported coal a year. It also has a joint venture for the development of a facility at Hull, with 3 million tonnes annual capacity. That is regarded primarily as a stop-gap until Immingham and Bristol begin operations in 1993.

PowerGen's Liverpool terminal is expected to start operation by late next year. The design and construction contract has gone to NEI and Clarke Chapman, both part of Rolls-Royce, the aero engine makers.

The contract will mainly benefit factories at Gateshead, in the North-East, but design work will be done at Carlisle.

Dr Alf Roberts, PowerGen's executive director, commercial, said: "The new terminal, which will be at Gladstone dock, on lease from Mersey Docks and Harbour Company, will increase PowerGen's options for fueling its coal-fired stations and meeting targets for reducing emissions of sulphur dioxide."

The PowerGen power stations at Ferrybridge, West Yorkshire, and Warrington, Cheshire, would be the first to benefit from the Immingham and Liverpool developments, respectively. Two other big PowerGen stations are at Cottam and Ratcliffe, both in Nottinghamshire, while each might possibly take supplies from an import terminal at Immingham, an additional import terminal has not been ruled out.

As well as boosting foreign coal imports, the two big generators are establishing more gas-fired power stations, further reducing their need for British Coal products.

However, British Coal is likely to remain the biggest single fuel supplier for electricity generation.



New broom: Gerry Robinson, chief executive

## Granada dismisses Warburg as banker

By MARTIN WALLER

GRANADA Group has dismissed its merchant bank, Warburg Securities, and replaced it by Lazard Brothers. The development is a further ripple from the upheavals that caused the departure of Derek Lewis, the former chief executive, last year.

Warburg was also joint broker and has relinquished that post to Barclays de Zoete Wedd. Warburg was instrumental in the City revolt that led to the departure of Mr Lewis and a £310 mil-

lion rescue rights issue, but the bank also criticised the position of Alex Bernstein, the Granada chairman. Mr Bernstein was reportedly furious at this perceived lack of support. Granada directors were unavailable last night and Warburg refused to comment on a client relationship. It is believed that Mr Lewis's replacement, Gerry Robinson, who arrived in November from the Compass Group, favoured appointing Lazard.

## Dunkel warns of green trade friction

FROM NEIL KELLY IN BANGKOK

ARTHUR Dunkel, director-general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade has issued a warning that countries with high environmental standards could lose business to economies that are less stringent. That could trigger serious trade friction, he said.

To avoid poorer environmental standards being used as a competitive weapon, Mr Dunkel is keen to see the issue made subject to multilateral trading rules. In an interview with *The Times*, he said that establishing international rules linking trade and environmental standards should be the next task for the trade negotiators after a successful conclusion of the current Uruguay round of talks on trade liberalisation.

He told an international conference yesterday that reform of world trade in agricultural products would be a contribution to improving the environment. Use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides harmful to the environment was closely linked to prices received by farmers. Countries with low prices, such as Australia, Argentina and Thailand used a twentieth of the amount of those chemicals than was used by western European countries.

Correcting growth price distortions in the market place by cutting farm subsidies would reduce environmental damage, he said.

Mr Dunkel told the Merging Business and the Environment conference, organised by the *International Herald Tribune*, that there was a danger that protectionists would use concern about the environment to raise new barriers against free trade. He said those problems must not be used as a pretext of reducing competition.

Anand Panyarachun, said Thailand is to discourage national companies from logging in neighbouring countries. It has banned logging in its own forests and begun a reforestation programme.

## GEC Alsthom wins orders worth £1bn

GEC Alsthom, the Anglo-French power generator manufacturer, has netted a French nuclear power turbine generator order worth £1 billion over the last nine days close to £1 billion. GEC factories at Rugby, Warwickshire, and Stafford, which manufacture steam turbines and generators, will benefit.

GEC Alsthom, in which Britain's GEC has a half stake, was chosen earlier as the main supplier for gas combined-cycle power plants for a new Dutch station in a contract worth £550 million. A consortium of GEC Alsthom with Balfour Beatty was awarded a £370 million contract for a combined cycle gas-fired station to be built by Thames Power at Barking, east London.

## Albrighton sells

ALBRIGHTON has sold the assets, business and goodwill of Transplastix, its architectural glazing subsidiary, to Yule Cans & Co. The sale price is £2.3 million in cash and net assets of the business are £1.45 million. Transplastix's net profits before interest and management charges for the year to end-March were £1 million. For the current year, Transplastix forecasts net profits of about £350,000. Peter Woodman, chairman of Albrighton, said the disposal was a major step in the group's financial restructuring and the proceeds would reduce its indebtedness. He said the sale was unconditional and had been completed.

## Hill & Smith falls

PRE-TAX profits at Hill & Smith Holdings, the steel fabricator and stockholder, fell 9 per cent to £4.64 million for the year to end-September. Turnover was up 5 per cent at £75.82 million and shareholders' funds increased more than 40 per cent to £29 million. The company said its steel stockholding and drop-forging operations had struggled for market share in a climate of falling margins. John Sill, the chairman, said the construction industry would be lucky to recover in 1992 although road construction continued to be expected to continue at satisfactory levels. The final 3.9p dividend makes 6p for the year, a 16 per cent improvement.

## Denmans edges up

DENMANS Electrical, the electrical goods wholesaler, is lifting its final dividend from 4p to 4.2p a share, raising the total for the year from 5.65p to 5.85p. Pre-tax profits edged forward from £1.22 million to £1.26 million in the year to end-September, despite a decline in turnover from £35.1 million to £34.5 million. Earnings dipped from 18.86p to 18.75p per share. The wholesale business, expanded its branch network, although sales were affected by reduced building activity. Credit risks continued to be a problem, with the bad debt provision running well above historic levels. The shares edged up to 156p.

## Proteus loss soars

PROTEUS International, the drug design company quoted on the USM, has announced interim losses increased from £520,000 to £1.27 million for the half year to end-September. The previous comparable figures covered a five-month period. The company is developing products for the treatment of HIV/AIDS, breast and prostate cancer, and bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE). Other products are being developed for food preservation, industrial catalysts, and hair conditioners. The balance sheet remained strong at end-December with £1.5 million net cash. Proteus raised £1.23 million with a share issue in December.

## Task force welcomes Lloyd's about-turn

By JONATHAN PRYNN

THE dramatic change of heart by the Council of Lloyd's on key proposals on the governance of the market has been welcomed by members of the task force that drew up the recommendations.

The council initially rejected the proposals, which suggested a clear division of the regulatory and business functions of the council. However, a hostile market reaction to the decision led to the appointment on Wednesday of a working party under the chairmanship of Sir Jeremy Morse, the chairman of Lloyds Bank, to look at the governance issues.

The move may take the sting out of the dispute, which was threatening to overshadow the other recommendations in the task force report.

David Rowland, who

chaired the task force, will sit on the working party but the rest of its membership is not yet known. Mr Rowland said: "I am very supportive of the action of the council. We are all now looking at the recommendations in the same way and I will do everything I can to help." Mr Rowland is believed to have insisted on a seat on the working party as a precondition to giving it his blessing.

Sir Jeremy, who is a nominated member of the Council of Lloyd's, is widely regarded in the market as an independently minded chairman who will come to his own conclusions over the controversial issues of governance. Sir Jeremy has been a member of the council since 1987, but has not sat on any of its committees because of time pressures.

As well as boosting foreign coal imports, the two big generators are establishing more gas-fired power stations, further reducing their need for British Coal products.

However, British Coal is likely to remain the biggest single fuel supplier for electricity generation.

**INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

**RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS GROUP**

3 London Wall Buildings, London Wall, London EC2M 5PU  
Tel: 071-588 3588 or 071-588 3576  
Telex No. 887374 Fax No. 071-256 8501

**CJA** A challenging senior position with excellent prospects.

**INSURANCE BROKING EXECUTIVE - JAPANESE KEY ACCOUNTS**

**LONDON** **Attractive Salary**

**LEADING INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE BROKERS**

This vacancy calls for candidates aged 30-37 with a good Japanese Education and a degree from a 1st Class Japanese University with at least three years' successful practical experience in a major Japanese Company in the UK, preferably, but not essentially, in the insurance sector. The appointed candidate will join a team looking after a substantial number of existing Japanese clients in the UK. The main responsibility will be maintaining excellent interface between the Japanese Insurance Companies and the Japanese clients and production of new business in conjunction with the Tokyo office. Up to 60% of time will be spent in the field. Fluency in the Japanese language and customs is important as is the ability to work effectively with current and prospective clients. Attractive initial salary is negotiable, plus car, non-contributory pension, free family medical cover and assistance with relocation expenses if necessary. Applications in strict confidence under reference BE4830/TT to the Managing Director: CJA.

**CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON ASSOCIATES (MANAGEMENT RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS) LIMITED, 3 LONDON WALL BUILDINGS, LONDON WALL, LONDON EC2M 5PU. TELEPHONE: 071-588 3588 or 071-588 3576. TELEX: 887374. FAX: 071-256 8501.**

**pluspetrol international, inc.**

Located in Houston, Texas, with headquarters in Buenos Aires, is expanding its exploration and production search in the international arena.

**PLUSPETROL** is seeking an experienced international petroleum professional with extensive background in and knowledge of most of the petroleum provinces of the world to assist the International Vice President in identifying new opportunities. A technical degree (or degrees) is a prerequisite, and extensive travel to all parts of the world will be required. Fluency in or knowledge of one or more languages, other than English, will be a factor.

Qualified candidates should send resume and salary history to:

**Office Manager  
PLUSPETROL INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
5599 San Felipe, #870  
Houston, Texas 77056  
Fax: 713 961 1097  
PRINCIPALS ONLY EEO NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE**

**OFFICE MANAGER DUBAI**

A successful International group seeks a commercially astute, dynamic graduate or similarly qualified professional manager in the age range of 35-45 to start up in DUBAI operation. The appointment could be on an accompanied basis.

The selected candidate will be financially and computer literate and have had experience of running a trading operation, preferably in the Middle East. Candidates must have proven experience of banking procedures, relating to international trading activities.

Opportunities for progression within the Group are excellent for the successful candidate who will now be seeking an opportunity for career enhancement in this exciting environment.

Interviews will be held in London and/or Dubai in February. Please forward detailed resume, with covering letter, full credentials, together with at least two references.

Please Reply to Box No 7024

**GEOTEAM**

The Geoteam company is part of the newly formed Norwegian based international oil service company, Petroleum Geoservice (PGS) based in Oslo, Norway. The PGS group is involved in geological data acquisition, navigation, seismic data processing, interpretation and geo-exclusive data acquisition, processing and analysis. Activities are both onshore and offshore, with the main clients being the major oil companies. Offices are located in Oslo, Stavanger, and Aberdeen.

**Geoscientist Exploration Ltd AS** and its affiliated company in the U.S., **Petroleum Geoservice Inc.**, are presently expanding their 3D seismic interpretation activity. During 1991 the 3D seismic interpretation team has been successful in completing a number of 3D seismic interpretation projects. The team is currently seeking qualified candidates for the following positions, all based at the Geoteam Exploration Ltd office in Oslo.

**Technical Manager**

The successful candidate will have responsibility for all aspects of technical support to the seismic operations and will be expected to play an active role in the company's technical development. Applicants should have a minimum of 5 years experience in the seismic industry with a proven track record in the interpretation of 3D seismic data. A technical degree (or degrees) is a prerequisite, and extensive travel to all parts of the world will be required. Fluency in or knowledge of one or more languages, other than English, will be a factor.

Qualified candidates should send resume and salary history to:

**Office Manager  
PLUSPETROL INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
5599 San Felipe, #870  
Houston, Texas 77056  
Fax: 713 961 1097  
PRINCIPALS ONLY EEO NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE**

**THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES**

Correction to the ad 'ENGLISH-LANGUAGE TYPISTS' that was published on the 16th of January, 1992.

The candidates must have 5 passes in the General Certificate of Secondary Education.

ALL BOX NO. REPLY SHOULD BE SENT TO:  
BOX NO. DEPT.  
BOX NO. 404  
VIRGINIA STREET  
WAPPING  
LONDON  
E1 9DD.

**THE SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST**

is Hong Kong's leading English Language newspaper

The classified post carries the largest volume of advertising in Hong Kong. It can sell your property, fill your vacancies and introduce you to the world of Hong Kong business.

Use us to get your message across to Hong Kong.

Contact our representative in London.  
The Colin Turner Group on 071-490 5551 or us direct.

South China Morning Post  
Classified Advertising Department  
6/F Morning Post Building  
28 Tong Chong Street,  
Quarry Bay, Hong Kong.  
Tel 852 565 8822. Fax: 852 565 7272

## BETTER PAPER. BETTER JOBS CLASSIFIED POST

**Specialist EC/Parliamentary Consultancy**

**EC CONSULTANT**

to join a small professional team providing advice on legislative/regulatory matters to household-name clients. Three/four days per week.

Degree, French, and experience of working in or to EC institutions, essential.

Please reply in confidence to:  
**Peter Rodford  
CSM European Consultants Limited  
90 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6JD**

## LEGAL NOTICES

Continued from page 17

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**

## LEGAL NOTICES

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**

## LEGAL NOTICES

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**

## LEGAL NOTICES

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**

## LEGAL NOTICES

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**

## LEGAL NOTICES

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**

## LEGAL NOTICES

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985**







## STOCK MARKET

## GEC speculation boosts Bae price

SUGGESTIONS that GEC may take advantage of the recent weakness in the British Aerospace share price to acquire a stake in the company lifted Bae shares 14p to 298p, on turnover of 6.3 million shares. The shares have been in steady decline for most of this month. The delay in confirming the al-Yamah contract, this week's A320 Airbus crash and continued institutional disenchantment had combined to take their toll on the price.

The flurry of activity in Bae also reflected hectic trading in the traded options market where one large buyer purchased 2,000 calls, equivalent to 2 million shares. This succeeded in fuelling the speculation.

At the time of last year's controversial rights issue, there was speculation that GEC would make a bid for the company. GEC has admitted talking in the past to Professor Sir Roland Smith, Bae's former chairman. However, it has always ruled out the possibility of a full bid, indicating that it would prefer closer co-operation between the two companies. Dealers say that one way of obtaining a closer working relationship with Bae would be for GEC to buy a near 30 per cent stake in the company.

At its peak last year, Bae

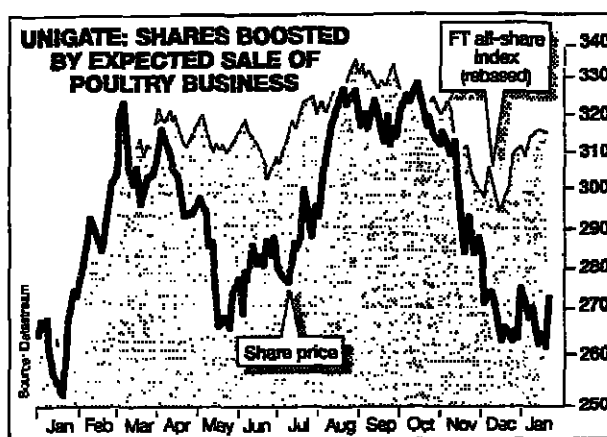
shares were trading at 653p, but slumped below 300p after the rights issue. GEC lost an early lead to finish 2p cheaper at 197½p.

The rest of the equity market failed to hold on to a Wall Street-inspired mark-up, with prices closing well below their best as fund managers continued to ponder the forthcoming general election and the troubled economy.

The FT-SE 100 index, up more than 15 points early in the day, closed 3.3 points ahead at 2,525.3, as 575 million shares changed hands.

Government securities regained some of their poise with gains of about ¼ to ½p.

Laurie raised a few eyebrows in after-hours trading by cutting the final dividend and scrapping the first interim payment for the current year. The news coincided with a drop in full-year pre-tax profits from £273 million to a worse than expected £207 million. There had been speculation that a dividend cut was on the cards, but the news earlier in the day that the group had sold its 50 per cent stake in Germany's Kuehne and Nagel for £118 million eased some of those fears. Dealers took their irritation out on the share price, which fell 39p to 115p, after briefly touching 157p, with



almost 7 million shares traded. Market-makers increased their spreads, the difference between the bid and offer, from 4p to 7p.

Fisons fell a further 6p to 346p in the wake of its meeting with analysts on Wednesday. Wellcome continued to make headway, boosted by

Sage, the computer software group, advanced 23p to 377p helped by a resurgence of institutional support. County NatWest WoodMac, the stockbroker, likes the shares so much it has begun recommending them on two fronts. The brokers' electrical team is pushing the shares to clients. The smaller companies desk is doing the same, with the business capitalised at only £75 million.

ministration's inspection of the group's production methods may be delayed. Analysts believe any delay could have adverse effects on the group's profitability.

Wellcome continued to make headway, boosted by

Sage, the computer software group, advanced 23p to 377p helped by a resurgence of institutional support. County NatWest WoodMac, the stockbroker, likes the shares so much it has begun recommending them on two fronts. The brokers' electrical team is pushing the shares to clients. The smaller companies desk is doing the same, with the business capitalised at only £75 million.

for the current year. Nikko Europe says in its latest review of the pharmaceutical industry that although the sector seems highly rated compared with recent years, it has returned to more traditional levels.

Andrew Porter, an analyst at Nikko, believes it is unlikely the sector will outperform as strongly as last year, but still expects it to do well. He is continuing to recommend SmithKline Beecham A. 7p better at 892p.

Mounting speculation that Unigate may be close to disposing of JP Wood, of Buxted chicken fame, its troubled poultry business, lifted the shares 10p to 274p. The rumoured buyer is Hilldown Holdings, up 4p to 157p, which already owns the Ross frozen chicken business. It is unlikely Hilldown will pay the £30 million asking price.

Unigate has had a 'for sale' notice up over the company for the past year and market whispers claim a deal may soon be struck. This deal would allow Hilldown to reduce costs and make the business more efficient.

Analysts say a price war has broken out in baking and milling and believe RHM will attempt to maintain market share at whatever cost.

Barton Group slipped 2p to 35½p, despite telling shareholders that it had reversed the slowdown in sales, which has badly affected profits. Sir John Hoskyns, chairman, told the annual meeting that sales were up 1 per cent since the start of the year, with Christmas sales up 5 per cent. However, he remained "extremely cautious" about prospects. Last year, the group saw pre-tax profits tumble from £146 million to £11 million.

UBS Phillips & Drew, the stockbroker, is urging clients still wishing to invest in stores to concentrate on the traditionally defensive issues, such as Kingfisher, up 8p to 507p. Marks and Spencer, 2p better at 294p, and Boots, 4p harder at 445p.

MY Holdings firmed 1p to 39p after John Monks, chief executive of the USM-quoted board and plastics packaging group, told the annual meeting he was confident about continued recovery following better than expected first-quarter trading. Analysts forecast current year profits of between £1 million and £1.2 million, against £547,000 last time.

MICHAEL CLARK

## TEMPUS

## Euro Disney prepares to ride the big dipper

BRITISH investors who agreed to stump up £150 million for their share of the Euro Disneyland share issue could be forgiven for wondering at a certain lack of communication from the Paris headquarters since.

The London market has been something of the poor relation since the flotation, while much of the action and the juiciest rumours having taken place on the Paris bourse. The most notorious example, a little more than a year ago, was the news, circulated to French investors but rather slower to make it over to this side of the Channel, that the company planned to make a £500 million issue of fresh capital.

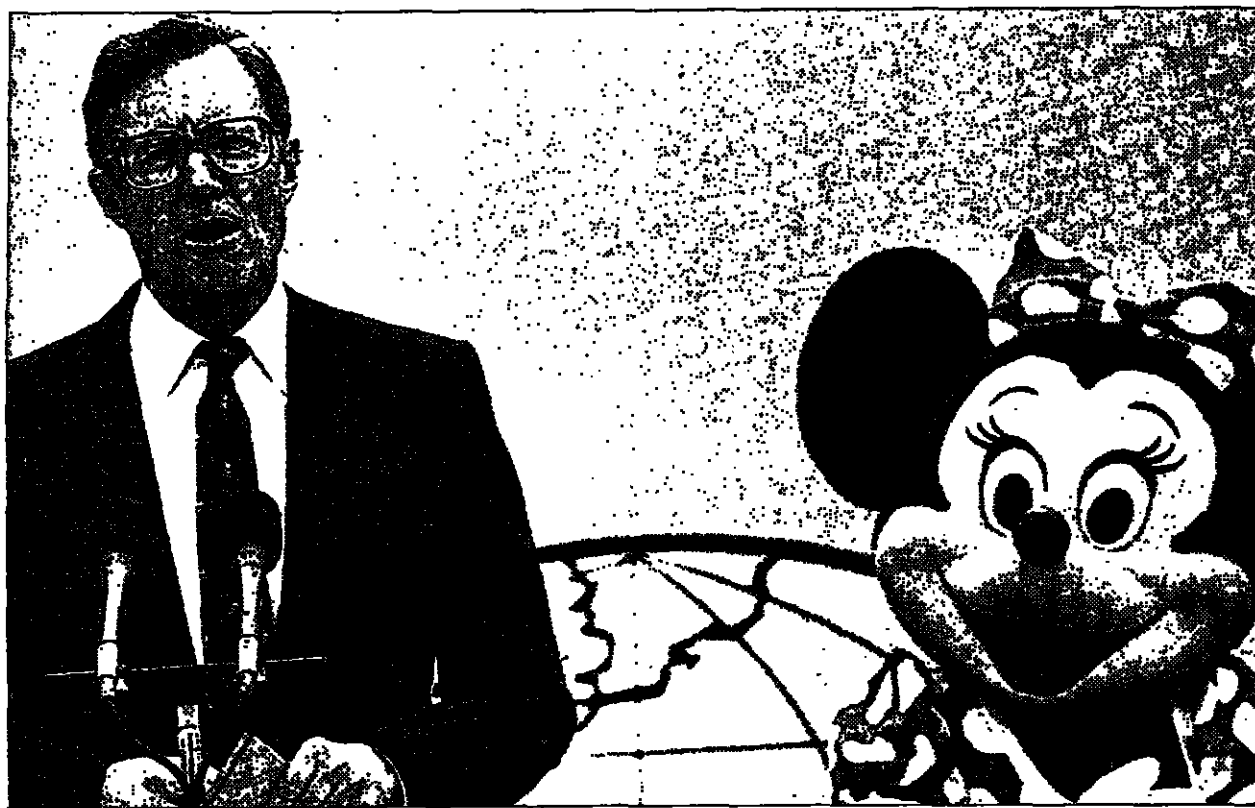
Since then, the London market has been getting its own back with suggestions that the April opening may be delayed by picketing contractors claiming cost overruns.

Full-year figures, published yesterday and prepared according to French accounting principles as they relate to a concern that has yet to earn a sou, are of little relevance, although it is significant that the company paid its first income tax last year. Euro Disney is 49 per cent owned by the American Walt Disney corporation, whose president, Frank Wells, launched the issue in 1989.

The row with the builders is over sums totalling just Fr850 million, a small proportion of the £2.2 billion total cost, and is merely the kind of contractual bickering familiar to anyone who has ever tried to get a kitchen fitted or a Channel Tunnel constructed. The park faces its biggest test when the first customers go through the turnstiles this summer, and early gate returns will be carefully scrutinised. A period of share price volatility can therefore be expected.

Anita Hibbert, at Smith

New Court, one of the few London analysts still studying the company, is not dismissing a further cash-raising exercise before 1994, al-



Mouse guests: Frank Wells, Walt Disney president, and Minnie will be scrutinising turnstile numbers

though she says this could be achieved by asset sales. Shareholders have seen their initial investment of 707p more than double to yesterday's close of £14.55p, just a week off the £15.20 peak. The shares will benefit from forthcoming publicity about the opening, but smaller investors may be tempted to sell ahead of this. Now might be a good time to take profits.

## Park Foods

CHRISTMAS cheer in the retail sector was as rare as snow in July, so it was no surprise that the market marked up Park Food shares 54p to 483p yesterday after a gleeful statement from Peter Johnson, chairman, about the company's trading during the festive season.

Park Foods sells Christmas hampers via a savings scheme operating throughout

the year. This Christmas, Mr Johnson sold 1.4 million hampers. The scheme means cash comes in throughout the year and allows the group to estimate sales for the year with a fair degree of accuracy.

So confident is Mr Johnson, that he is forecasting a final dividend of not less than 8p per share, a 40 per cent increase on last time. This is on top of an interim dividend that has jumped 117 per cent to 5p. In total, this year's dividend will rise 62 per cent to 13p, a yield of 3.6 per cent.

Apart for the surge in the interim dividend, the half-year figures are somewhat irrelevant. The loss before tax for the six months to end-September was £4.39 million, compared with a loss last time of £4.5 million. Turnover fell from £20.3 million to £15.7 million, partly because of business disposals.

Not only did Mr Johnson sell more hampers last Christmas, but his customers also spent, on average, 33 per cent more. Despite being only a month into the new year, Mr Johnson is bullish about Christmas 1992, orders for which are showing significant increases over last year, he says.

Profits may receive an extra boost this year if Park changes its accounting policy and writes off outstanding goodwill through reserves, rather than through the profit and loss account.

Mr Johnson is confident that when the recession ends, the group will continue to grow. The market is not yet mature, he says. Analysts are more sceptical.

Assuming full-year profits of about £6 million for the year to March 1992, the shares are trading on a price/earnings ratio of 12.4.

## Macarthy

LAST year will be best forgotten by Macarthy: its retail business slumped in the Gulf war and it was obliged to pay Nicholas Ward, a former chairman, £430,000 in compensation for loss of office. Then came unsolicited bids from three suitors and an acrimonious exchange with its main supplier.

The company has charged £3.12 million against deferred costs as an extraordinary item, absorbing a large portion of pre-tax profits of £5.3 million for the year ended September.

Even now, the company's future remains undecided. Although one bid was defeated, two others are likely to be revived pending clearance from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Macarthy, which has been in a bid situation since May 1991, must do it all over again.

Against this background, a 15 per cent rise in pre-tax profits and a 19 per cent rise in earnings to 13.8p a share is creditable and reflects the company's potential, now that the new management under Ian Parsons, chief executive, has got to grips with the core businesses, unencumbered by a lacklustre wholesaling operation.

The revitalised pharmaceuticals division lifted profits 41 per cent to £3.7 million. The retail pharmacy business slipped from £4.47 million to £3.9 million but this reflects the uncertainty of suppliers during the bids almost as much as the impact of depressed consumer spending.

A final dividend of 5p reduces the total from last year's uncovered 12.5p to a more sustainable 10p. The shares closed at 279p, down just 3p.

Joanne Walton, an analyst at Lehman Brothers, estimates Macarthy could make profits of £5.8 million and earnings of 15.1p a share this year. This forecast, however, is almost academic, for the concern is unlikely to see out the year as an independent company.

Both Lloyds Chemists and UniChem have made significant acquisitions since their bids lapsed and may not retain as much appetite for Macarthy. Thus, despite an enhanced earnings outlook, it would be unreasonable to expect Lloyds, the favourite, and a 9.9 per cent shareholder, to go higher than last time's 306p, although a higher proportion of cash than the original 21p a share may be required. Whether Lloyds' own shareholders will agree is another matter.

## Ecu the likeliest candidate as common currency for former Soviet republics

## Younger generation helps Ukraine stand on its feet



Unfulfilled promises: Leonid Kravchuk, the president

FROM ROBERT SEELY IN KIEV

TWO months after the declaration of independence, Ukraine's economic and monetary policy is slowly taking shape, aided by diaspora advisers and a younger generation of bankers trained outside the restraints of Soviet economics. Ukrainian enterprises earning hard currency will, within ten days, receive instructions to begin depositing profits in national bank accounts to build up the republic's reserves. These are currently negligible after the loss of half a billion dollars of export profits that were banked with the Soviet Vnesheconbank.

Teams from the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank are already in Kiev. A key question facing the republic's government and national bank, as well as those of Russia and other former Soviet republics, is whether to adapt a clearing system for trade between the republics, which are still heavily interdependent. Monopoly producers supply 30 to 40 per cent of the former Soviet Union's output.

"If the rouble and hryvnia will not be freely convertible, we will need a clear-

ing mechanism to facilitate inter-republican transactions," said George Yurchyshyn, deputy director of the national bank. The most likely contender for the clearing system common currency at present is the ecu.

Mr Yurchyshyn, aged 51, is a western expert of Ukrainian origin who has returned to help develop the republic's financial and government institutions. Formerly a senior vice-president of Bank of Boston, he has been seconded to Kiev for a year from a Boston capital management firm.

Mr Yurchyshyn's role with the national bank will be in building up its foreign exchange division and strengthening its links with western banks and financial institutions. He joked: "I speak three languages: English, Ukrainian and banking."

Directors of the national bank hope that formal membership of the IMF can be attained within six months. By that time, the government plans to have introduced a Ukrainian national currency, the hryvnia.

The first test of the government's reformist willpower will be in controlling the supply of the Ukraine's cou-

pons, a "surrogate money" which, by next month, will replace the rouble for all transactions in the republic. The government has decided to allow workers to be paid in coupon cheques, increasing the danger that the coupons could become as inflation-prone as the rouble.

For Ukraine's 52 million people, independence was marked by a botched price liberalisation. Guaranteed profits of 25 per cent on goods sold has induced many shop managers, who lack knowledge of what a market is, to raise prices even further, pushing some basic supplies out of reach of the average citizen. Promises by the republic's president, Leonid Kravchuk, to lower state-subsidised prices on goods such as milk and bread have yet to be implemented. Although 30 per cent of goods can still be bought for roubles, state shops sell products exclusively for coupons, which first went into wage packets in December.

Confusion over the coupons remains general, Vladimir Yurmakov, Ukraine's deputy economic minister, said: "No ministry is going to be able to define the price index of January or February."

## WORLD MARKETS

## Late profit taking restrains Nikkei

Tokyo — Shares rose for a second day to close slightly firmer in volatile trade. Continued bargain hunting and expectations of easier credit boosted prices, but late profit taking and institutional caution helped pull the Nikkei back from the day's highs, brokers said.

Paul Migliorato, of Jardine Fleming Securities, said: "It's encouraging to see the market holding on to yesterday's gains. Foreigners have been aggressive buyers of blue chips, but the rally doesn't have the strength to move from sector to sector."

The Nikkei average rose 46.60 points, or 0.22 per cent, to 21,580.72, with about 250 million shares traded.

Waking to news of Wall Street's rebound and boosted by renewed bargain-hunting, the Nikkei opened 54.72 points above Wednesday's close of 21,534.12. Although the average briefly drifted into negative territory, it soon regained upward momentum, peaking at 21,794.17 in early afternoon.

Futures and options-related

trade contributed to the restless fluctuations in the Nikkei, brokers said, adding that record low money supply growth figures for December — 2.0 per cent against 2.4 per cent in November — revived hopes of another discount rate cut. One broker said: "Some domestic institutions are returning to the market in the search for cheaply priced stock, which may be a sign of confidence is building up again."

□ Hong Kong — Shares soared to a record close on a news agency report that counter-revolutionary charges against Zhao Ziyang, the reformist former Chinese premier, had been dropped, brokers said. An official Chinese denial came after the market closed. The Hang Seng index finished at a record 4,625.84, up 75.12 points, or 1.65 per cent from Wednesday.

□ Singapore — The Straits Times Industrial index closed at 1,547.26, up 5.96 points.

□ Sydney — The all-ordinaries index rose 4 points to 1,635.5.

(Reuters)

## Dow starts to recover

New York — Blue chips recovered some opening losses and looked set to move into positive figures as investors bought shares that were weakened by early profit-taking, analysts said. The broader market remained firm.

The Dow Jones industrial average was 1.56 points down at 3,254.25, up from a low of 3,244. Gaining shares led declining issues by four to three, while the Nasdaq composite index was up more than 5 points, or 0.84 per cent, at 625.90.

Michael Metz, market

strategist at Oppenheimer and Co., said: "You have profit-taking in the big industrials and a shift in speculative interest toward the secondary and smaller stocks."

□ Frankfurt — The Dax index fell 10.53 points to 1,669.57, well below its early high of 1,686.47. Dealers said early buying had faded shortly after the start of trade as profit taking set in. They added that fears of steel and bank strikes and weaker German bonds had encouraged investors to take profits.

(Reuters)

## WALL STREET

Jan 23	Jan 22	Jan 21	Jan 20
midday	close	midday	close
AMP Inc	66	66	66
Amgen Corp	100	100	100
Alcoa Inc	44	44	44
Alkermes Inc	17	17	17
Alkermes (H)	17	17	17
Alkermes A	17	17	17
Alkermes B	17	17	17
Alkermes C	17	17	17
Alkermes D	17	17	17
Alkermes E	17	17	17
Alkermes F	17	17	17
Alkermes G	17	17	17
Alkermes H	17	17	17
Alkermes I	17	17	17
Alkermes J	17	17	17
Alkermes K	17	17	17
Alkermes L	17	17	17
Alkermes M	17	17	17
Alkermes N	17	17	17
Alkermes O	17	17	17
Alkermes P	17	17	17
Alkermes Q	17	17	17
Alkermes R	17	17	17
Alkermes S	17	17	17
Alkermes T	17	17	17
Alkermes U	17	17	17
Alkermes V	17	17	17
Alkermes W	17	17	17
Alkermes X	17	17	17
Alkermes Y	17	17	17
Alkermes Z	17	17	17
Alkermes AA	17	17	17
Alkermes AB	17	17	17
Alkermes AC	17	17	17
Alkermes AD	17	17	17
Alkermes AE	17	17	17
Alkermes AF	17	17	17
Alkermes AG	17	17	17
Alkermes AH	17	17	17
Alkermes AI	17	17	17
Alkermes AJ	17	17	17
Alkermes AK	17	17	17
Alkermes AL	17	17	17
Alkermes AM	17	17	17
Alkermes AN	17	17	17
Alkermes AO	17	17	17
Alkermes AP	17	17	17
Alkermes AQ	17	17	17
Alkermes AR	17	17	17
Alkermes AS	17	17	17
Alkermes AT	17	17	17
Alkermes AU	17	17	17
Alkermes AV	17	17	17
Alkermes AW	17	17	17
Alkermes AX	17	17	17
Alkermes AY	17	17	17
Alkermes AZ	17	17	17
Alkermes BA	17	17	17
Alkermes BB	17	17	17
Alkermes BC	17	17	17
Alkermes BD	17	17	17
Alkermes BE	17	17	17
Alkermes BF	17	17	17
Alkermes BG	17	17	17
Alkermes BH	17	17	17
Alkermes BI	17	17	17
Alkermes BJ	17	17	17
Alkermes BK	17	17	17
Alkermes BL	17	17	17
Alkermes BM	17	17	17
Alkermes BN	17	17	17
Alkermes BO	17	17	17
Alkermes BP	17	17	17
Alkermes BQ	17	17	17
Alkermes BR	17	17	17
Alkermes BS	17	17	17
Alkermes BT	17	17	17
Alkermes BU	17	17	17
Alkermes BV	17	17	17
Alkermes BW	17	17	17
Alkermes BX	17	17	17
Alkermes BY	17	17	17
Alkermes BZ	17	17	17
Alkermes CA	17	17	17
Alkermes CB	17	17	17
Alkermes CC	17	17	17
Alkermes CD	17	17	17
Alkermes CE	17	17	17
Alkermes CF	17	17	17
Alkermes CG	17	17	17
Alkermes CH	17	17	17
Alkermes CI	17	17	17
Alkermes CJ	17	17	17
Alkermes CK	17	17	17
Alkermes CL	17	17	17
Alkermes CM	17	17	17
Alkermes CN	17	17	17
Alkermes CO	17	17	17
Alkermes CP	17	17	17
Alkermes CQ	17	17	17
Alkermes CR	17	17	17
Alkermes CS	17	17	17
Alkermes CT	17	17	17
Alkermes CU	17	17	17
Alkermes CV	17	17	17
Alkermes CW	17	17	17
Alkermes CX	17	17	17
Alkermes CY	17	17	17
Alkermes CZ	17	17	17
Alkermes DA	17	17	17
Alkermes DB	17	17	17
Alkermes DC	17	17	17
Alkermes DD	17	17	17
Alkermes DE	17	17	17
Alkermes DF	17	17	17
Alkermes DG	17	17	17
Alkermes DH	17	17	17
Alkermes DI	17	17	17
Alkermes DJ	17	17	17
Alkermes DK	17	17	17
Alkermes DL	17	17	17
Alkermes DM	17	17	17
Alkermes DN	17	17	17



## Lonrho dashes dividend hopes

Tiny Rowland will have fewer friends in the City this morning, even if his band of country followers stays loyal — not only because of the cut in the final dividend from 5p to 3p a share and the passing of the 3p first interim, but because of the unsatisfactory way Lonrho yesterday chose to make its public announcements.

The debate about whether Lonrho's final dividend would be safe has exercised analysts' minds for weeks, and the share price has suffered accordingly. The market was told, mid-morning that year-end results would be held back until 4.30 pm, which compounded the uncertainty. Then at noon, Lonrho made what was seen as an encouraging statement that it was selling its 50 per cent stake in Kühns & Nagel for a total cash consideration of DM340 million.

The market interpretation was that the final dividend for 1991 would, after all, be safe and there was short-lived comfort that perhaps all was not as bad as feared. That the 1991 pre-tax profits fell as much as they did, from £273 million to £207 million, was an added shock. Weaker metal prices and the recession were factors beyond Lonrho's control, as were the effects of the Gulf war that kept tourists at home and dented consumer spending.

In City-Lonrho relationships, few years have been good, but the past 12 months have been worse than usual. There was the resignation last August, for reasons unconnected with Lonrho, of Sir Edward du Cann, the chairman, and Terry Robinson has also gone. René Leclercq, the new chairman, might be "Mr Sugar" in the Indian Ocean, but is virtually unknown in the City.

Whoever finally takes over the dominant role at Lonrho that is currently the preserve of Tiny Rowland, the chief executive, has an unenviable task. Mr Rowland should ensure that his successor's task is made no more difficult than necessary by improving communications with the City.

## Stags lose out

Judging from statistics, the government can look investors in the eye over its privatisation programme and might even hope for a thank you come election time. A study by Peter Curwen and David Holmes in the latest National Westminster Bank quarterly review suggests that investors who bought £300 worth of shares on each of the 26 occasions the government has asked them to stump up since 1979 enjoyed a compound annual rate of return of 23.8 per cent up until the end of September. This comfortably outperformed investing in the all-share index, which showed an annual return before capital gains tax of 19.1 per cent.

Indeed, privatisation would have done much more for those who truly invested in the stocks, at a total presumed cost of £7,800, than for the smart-folk who simply tried to make a quick return by taking £300 from the building society, selling the privatised stock on day one and putting the money back. Excluding the doomed 1987 BP sale and two tender issues, that would have generated a worthwhile average of £60 a time, amounting to £1,556 altogether, or £2,431 with reinvestment of the profits in a building society. In terms of return, that is pretty good, but it was no way to get rich, especially as allocations were low on some of the most staggy issues. In practice, most investors will not have done so well. Some of the best returns were on early issues, such as AB Ports, which were not aimed at a mass market, while, as the authors admit, the popular utility stocks have had a hard time since September as regulators bared their teeth and the election loomed.

# Gilts that promise safe passage for pensioners

**Dryden Gilling-Smith calls for the issue of long-term, index-linked bonds, to the mutual benefit of both borrower and lender**

Index-linked gilt-edged stocks were first issued in Britain just over ten years ago. In 1981, inflation was expected to fall and it made good sense for the Exchequer to borrow on a low index-linked interest coupon instead of locking into the historic high interest rates that were then having to be offered on new issues of conventional government bonds.

We are now in a parallel situation. If the Treasury believes its own inflation forecasts, it would be very much cheaper for the government to fund the growing public sector borrowing requirement by means of index-linked gilts — particularly in advance of the election.

Any issues of conventional gilts are bound to carry a political risk premium, which can be avoided by issuing index-linked gilts. Yet the last long-dated index-linked issue was more than five years ago, on December 21, 1986.

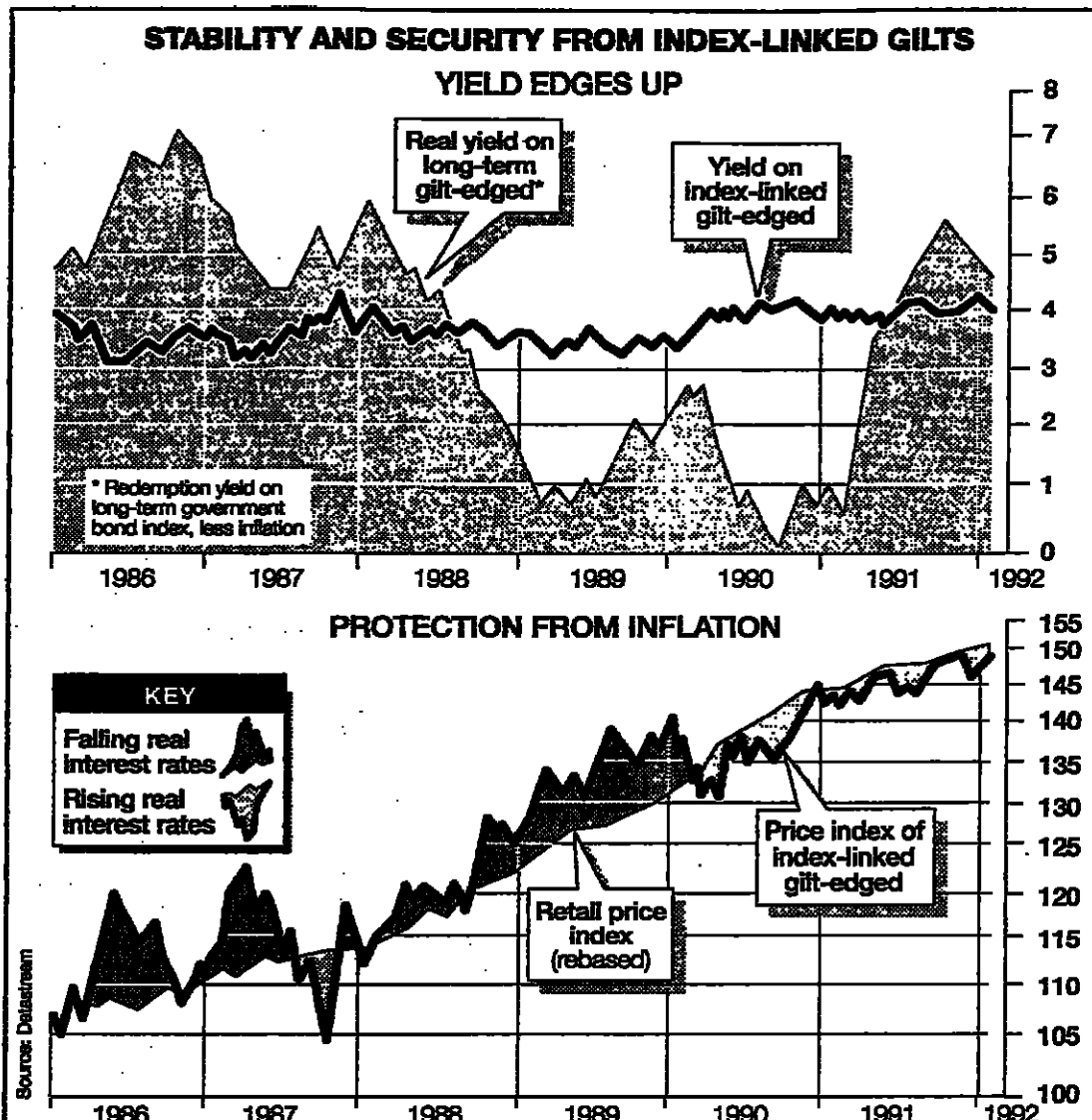
For much of that period admittedly, the government was, or balance, repaying debt rather than funding a deficit, so that relatively little stock of any kind needed to be issued. But it is surprising to note that the most recent issues have been conventional gilts with a redemption yield of around 9½ per cent when index-linked gilts are yielding around 4 per cent.

If inflation is set to fall to somewhere between zero and 4 per cent, one wonders why index-linked gilts are not being used as the main funding vehicle. Is it because the Treasury, in its heart of hearts, believes that Neil Kinnock will move into Number Ten and set Britain on course for South American style inflation?

Index-linked gilts also play an important part in the government's attempt to persuade employers to inflation-proof their occupational pensions. Public sector pensioners and their surviving spouses can retire in the secure knowledge that their pensions will be increased each year in line with the retail price index as an unfunded liability to be met by future taxpayers.

Prospects for inflation may look good in the immediate future but a man retiring now at 60, say, with a wife of 50 who might well survive to her 90s, is concerned with protection against inflation over the next 40 years or so.

Some private sector employers have been prepared to offer this kind of inflation protection. My mother, for example, who survived to 90-plus on an ICI widow's pension, benefited from such an enlightened policy. In practical terms, however, it is unreasonable to expect employers to pick up the tab for this inflation-proofing unless they are offered a suitable investment vehicle. This is



where index-linked gilts can play a key role.

When an employee retires, a pension fund can buy an index-linked annuity from several household-name life assurance groups, including Standard Life, Prudential, Pearl and Norwich Union, which can match their liabilities by investment in index-linked gilts.

At the date of an employee's retirement, therefore, the employer knows exactly how much he has to pay in order to provide an inflation-proof pension for the worker and his or her surviving spouse and can fund accordingly, as many employers already do.

If the employer is taken over by someone who wants to follow in Robert Maxwell's footsteps or goes into liquidation, the employee's pension rights are secure and protected.

The employer does not have to be a large company to offer this type of security of income in old age. Many small, self-administered pension plans offer the same security. An entrepreneur who sets up a small self-administered pension plan, of which he is the sole member, wants protection if he sells his business prior to retirement. The pension rights will normally be secured by means of an index-linked annuity.

Most insurance companies that issue index-linked annuities are,

however, obliged to set a cut-off point at the year 2024, the date when the longest-term index-linked gilt-edged stocks are redeemed.

The pensions industry desperately needs a big new issue of long-dated stock that can be taken up by insurance companies offering index-linked annuities and those large self-administered pension funds that wish to "immunise" their liabilities to provide inflation-proof pensions.

To provide for a surviving spouse who might benefit from a pension for 40 years, we will require an issue with a redemption date of at least 2032.

Indeed, it would be better to make that 2040 in order to cater for the increasing number of centenarians who, thanks to improved medical care, are likely to require pensions in the 21st century and for those occasional spouses who are prepared to put up with earning partners that are more than ten years their senior.

If necessary, such an issue could be confined to tax-exempt approved pension funds and to insurers providing investment and annuity services. Sir Geoffrey Howe, who was Chancellor when index-linked gilts made their debut in 1981, originally favoured this formula. Restrictions were to counter vague official fears

about such a novelty, including the anxiety of Sir Gordon Richardson, then Governor of the Bank of England, that Opec governments would pile into any such issue, obliging the British government to offer them inflation protection for all time.

In the Eighties, when equities earned high rates of return, many investment managers tended to look down their noses at index-linked gilts. Now that dividend expectations are low the real rate of return guaranteed by index-linked gilts is attracting increased attention. They could be the best bet for a staple core portfolio for the Nineties.

Regardless of any merits of index-linked gilts as an investment for a growing pension fund portfolio, the most important immediate concern is to provide an adequate supply of new, long-dated issues needed for pension funds and their insurers to offer the necessary guarantees of income security in old age that has been the declared aim of government policy.

As more industries are privatised and as the burden of old age provision is privatised, private sector providers need to be given the tools to do the job.

The author is managing director of Employee Benefit Services Management, the actuary and consultant.

## Shipyard deals put life into the Clyde

For more than three years the rusting "Tuxedo Princess", formerly the Stranraer-Larne ferry Caledonia Princess, has lain at anchor alongside Glasgow's Broomielaw. Used as a nightclub and restaurant until the venture recently folded, it is an ironic sight for Glaswegians who remember when the Clyde built some of the world's greatest liners and warships.

The upper Clyde basin, with its empty wharves and motionless cranes, remains a stark reminder of the Clyde's former maritime pre-eminence, but recently the river has witnessed a modest resurgence in shipbuilding, marked yesterday by the announcement that the Yarrow naval yard has won a vital order for three Type 23 frigates.

In December, the Norwegian-owned Kvaerner Govan yard on the south bank won a £200 million order for four 37,500-ton bulk chemical carriers, securing 1,700 jobs. The yard was saved from closure by the Norwegians in 1988.

Shipyard workers on the Clyde, or what was left of them, could be forgiven for their lack of morale over 20 years as yards closed and orders went to the Far East and continental Europe. Kvaerner Govan, however, saw off rivals for the order. Workers have been persuaded to drop the restrictive practices that made the yards uncompetitive. Absenteeism has become a forgotten habit.

In the Sixties, demarcation disputes were rife. European countries, and Japan and Korea, were building ships faster and more cheaply. In 1968, with Clyde yards collapsing, Upper Clyde Shipbuilders was formed. Despite £20 million from the Labour government the demarcation disputes continued. In 1970, the new Conservative government refused any more aid and the famous "work-in" followed, eventually leading to Govan Shipbuilders, an amalgam of three yards.

Yet by 1988 the Govan was tottering on the brink of collapse under British Shipbuilders, which had swallowed £2 billion of state aid since nationalisation and had seen the national workforce tumble from 32,000 to 6,000. Since the Norwegian takeover the workforce has remained steady.

There was further proof of the resurgence of the Clyde on Wednesday when Ferguson Shipbuilders of Port Glasgow launched the Star Pegasus, a £10 million supply vessel, commissioned by Star Offshore Services.

Yarrow, which has concentrated on military vessels since the late Sixties is now poised to enter the civilian market with a bid to build a 120-car ferry for Caledonian MacBrayne. Yarrow said the new order would secure its future. "We are expecting an upturn in the merchant fleet which means that with Kvaerner Govan secure and ourselves reasonably secure we have the capacity to take up anything that comes along," Mr Fyfe said.

KERRY GILL

£400m order, page 20

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### French flavour for Merrill

GIVEN that European equities are one of the few lucrative areas of expansion still open to UK securities firms, and that proficient European analysts and traders are now commanding premium prices, Merrill Lynch Europe, the British offshoot of the American company, has pulled off something of a coup. From next month, it will be fielding David Jones as its French equity analyst. Jones, who was previously joint director of research responsible for investment strategy at the securities subsidiary of Credit Commercial de France, also once worked for Savory Milin and SG Warburg. For four of his five years at Warburg, Jones was the top-rated French analyst in the Exel survey. His brief at Merrill will be to combine coverage of French equities with a specialisation in the services sector across Europe. Merrill, which makes markets in 150 European stocks — double the number of a year ago — has also been recruiting for its trading desk. James Blackburn has joined from Salomon Brothers, as a senior trader in Dutch equities, and Michael Nielsen, former Commerzbank and Deutschebank, will be joining its Frankfurt office in April as its head, and first, floor trader on the Frankfurt stock exchange.



"It's just that I would prefer some other consumer to lead the recovery."

men of the year for the Midlands region on Wednesday. In 1990, Smith, chief executive of Storm Group, the cartoon animation company, arrived in Moscow on business to find that British Midlands, whose chairman is Sir Michael, had lost his luggage before he boarded his flight at Heathrow. On his return four days later, his luggage was still missing, so Smith wrote to Sir Michael claiming £25,000 in compensation. Smith finally settled for £4,000 and six free tickets.

**All in a name**  
OUR quest for a name for the successor to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) goes on. Flip-sand suggestions from readers include: BRUGES — Bureaucrats Rule Unless GATT is signed; BRUSSELS — Bureaucrats Rule Unless Somebody Stops Everybody's Local Subsidy; EMROCK — Free Market Rules O (Common) K; SUBSTANCE — Subsidised

**Trade A Naughty Common Extravagance: SUBJUGATE** — Subsidies Just Go Against Trade. Everywhere, and NOFLU — No Free Lunch. A reader in Dorset suggests that since GATT "never happens", how about WAIT — World Agreement on International Trade, or WAIT FOR IT — World Agreement on International Trade Free of Restrictive and Improper Tariffs. A reader in Nottingham, suggests OWT — Organisation for World Trade, on the basis that you can't get OWT for NOWT (No Organisation for World Trade).

**Animal evacuation**  
KELT Energy, the independent oil and gas company run by Hubert Perrodo, the polo playing companion of Prince Charles, has had its fair share of financial woes in the past. However, they may seem like nothing compared with a drama due to unfold next week. On Tuesday, an enquiry will begin into plans for a £30 million sour-gas-fired power station in the Vale of Pickering, North Yorkshire. Kel, which heads a consortium including BP, has hired Settrington House, home of Sir Michael Storey, chairman of Portsmouth and Sunderland Newspapers, to accommodate the hundreds of locals who are expected to voice their disapproval. Their vote aside, Kel can expect sparks from Robert Gibb, millionaire owner of the FlamingoLand Zoo. Gibb claims it would take days and cost up to £10 million to evacuate the elephants, giraffes and other inmates of his zoo in the event of an accident at the plant.

CAROL LEONARD

## Lloyd's should return to basics

From Mr Jeremy Lyons

Sir, I feel the powers at Lloyd's and the writers of the Rowland Report have both lost themselves in complexities.

They must revert to fundamentals — that is the strength behind Lloyd's is the Society of Members.

It would appear that the report does not address the four main problems affecting this society of Members of Lloyd's today.

Firstly, increasing costs — which must be headed by self-regulation. If an outside government body were to regulate Lloyd's, the high cost of regulation would then not be borne solely by the Members, while at the same time they would have more confidence in such regulation, where conflicts of interest would no longer apply.

Secondly, with the vast number of open year syndicates, a large number of members are unable to resign/leave Lloyd's, even though this is exactly what

they may want. Some syndicates have implied that the attempt to close these syndicates is only half-hearted and that this situation will continue in order not to lose a large number of members, and therefore underwriting capacity, until corporate membership can be implemented.

Thirdly, even with the proposed stop loss provision, a profit ratio on average of say 15 per cent on deposit, in relation to a possible loss of 300 per cent of deposit (investment) is hardly an incentive for new members to invest.

And finally in order to encourage new members of Lloyd's — surely Lloyd's must be seen to be taking care of its existing members — something not apparently a recommendation of the working party report.

Yours faithfully, JEREMY N. M. LYONS, Members' Writing Room, Lloyd's of London, 1 Lime Street, EC3.

## Clear case for a regulatory body

From Major F. N. L. Chapman

Sir, Mr A Kinnimonth may be unduly optimistic (Business Letters, January 21). Should the suspicion exist that there are untrustworthy agents at Lloyd's and that members' agents, accountants and reinsurers are prospering at members' expense, whereas the members themselves are getting small returns, if any, for the risks they run, then it is inevitable that membership will decline much further.

Although every member knows the risk he takes, the general assumption, if

Lloyd's is to remain viable, must be that the probability is one of profit. There seems to be a clear case for a regulatory body and a separate business board.

Yours faithfully, FRANK L. CHAPMAN, Underwriting member of Lloyd's, Woodpeckers, Golf Course Road, Painswick, Gloucestershire.

Letters to The Times Business and Finance section can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112.

## Premiums share shrinking

From Mr Phillip Dinkel

Sir, Lloyd's share of world non-life direct and reinsurance premiums has shrunk from some 45 per cent earlier this century to 1.5 per cent today. Of this 1.5 per cent the risky element of KOL insurance has increased. In the last ten years, direct syndicate expenses and agents fees have increased fivefold. Is this why some 9,500 names (or more than the total Lloyd's community of only a few years ago) are now in dispute with the corporation?

Yours faithfully, PHILIP DINKEL, 4 Ravenna Road, SW15.

## Rate disappoints

From Mr Simon Cooke

Sir, In the old days it used to be said that a typical bank manager would "fall" to tell his widowed customer that the £1,000 she had on current account ought really to be on a deposit account.

It appears that the wheel has now turned full circle. As clerk to my Parish Council I have made special efforts to put money on deposit in order that the council could earn as much interest as possible to help defray the parish's expenses. It was not until I recently enquired as to the rate of interest being paid that the awful truth dawned upon me. I am told that the parish's deposit account earns the princely rate of 1.5 per cent p.a. So much for the caring bank. I have little doubt that this goes for many trusts and other small funds throughout the country. Trustees and other guardians of such funds would be well advised to examine alternatives to their local bank.

Yours truly, SIMON H. COOKE, 10 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD RANGE

From TIMES BOOKS

- The First Book of The Sunday Times Concise Crosswords by Barbara Hall NEW Price £4.50
- The Sunday Times Crosswords Book Ten by Barbara Hall NEW Price 4.99
- The Third Book of The Times Concise Crosswords by Margaret Webb NEW Price £4.50
- The Fourteenth Book of The Times Crosswords by John Grant NEW Price £4.50
- The Times Book of Jumbo Crosswords by Edmund Akenhead (Cryptic only, both books) Price £5.50
- The Second Book of The Times Jumbo Crosswords by Edmund Akenhead SECOND EDITION Price £5.50

From PENGUIN BOOKS

- The First Book of The Times Concise Crosswords by Margaret Webb Price £4.99
- The Second Book of The Times Concise Crosswords by Margaret Webb Price £4.99

Prices include UK Postage & Packing. Additional postage charges per item ex U.K. £1 Plus £1.50 (first item only) rest of world excluding EC. US Dollar cheques welcome. £1 surcharge.

I enclose cheque/postal order (delete as applicable) for £..... payable to Akom Limited, Times Crossword Account, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW.

NAME..... ADDRESS.....  
POSTCODE..... TELEPHONE.....  
Please supply.....

Enquiries telephone 081-852 4575 (open weekends)

Jan 24



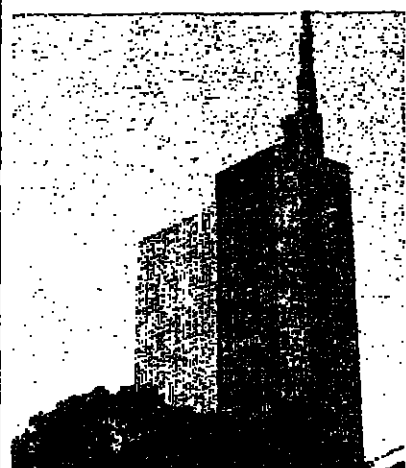
سکتا ہے اس کا

### See shareholders

The Group's balance sheet is strong with shareholders' equity of £1.3 billion and cash balances of over £280 million, 87 per cent. of which is banked in Europe or the United States. Net borrowings remain at the level reported in the Interim Statement with gearing at 70 per cent.

Lonrho's current capital investment programme is winding down and borrowings will reduce during the year with a corresponding reduction in gearing. In addition, a selection of companies from the group of 300 will be carefully sold during what the Board sees as a year of good housekeeping.

By having the widest spread of assets in many countries, Lonrho hoped to avoid exposure to a recession in any particular economy or industry. The Gulf war brought world-wide economic consequences, bringing a strong decline to tourism, consumption, manufacturing, industry and oil. For example, the fall in precious metal prices accounts for nearly half of the reduction in Lonrho's profits in the second six months compared to last year and the rare industrial metal rhodium sold in 1990 at £2000 per ounce but is now £1000 per ounce. Your Company has been less profitable during the financial year, with a weak second half.



The new Lonrho House in Nairobi, Kenya.

Despite it all, the year end result was £207 million profit before tax against £273 million last year, and Lonrho remains soundly based to move back to its normal pattern of turnover and profit.

The production of platinum group metals and gold continues to be a major source of revenue for Lonrho, and 1991 saw another substantial uplift in production from the planned expansion at Western Platinum and Ashanti.

In Western Platinum, shareholders have, I believe, one of the world's great mines with a life of at least one hundred years, together with low-cost modern production methods. The sudden fall in platinum and rhodium prices is caused by world recession combined with destocking. The mining industry has weathered the effects of cyclical pricing time and time again.

At Ashanti in Ghana production is steadily increasing according to the programme which envisages a million ounces per annum in three years. Lonrho is in partnership with the Republic of Ghana in developing the Ashanti Mine and has enjoyed an exceptional degree of constructive support from the Government.

Across Africa, Lonrho maintains and improves its position as the largest food producer. The Company also raises beef cattle and ranches a total herd of



The new Labadi Beach Hotel, Accra, Ghana.

120,000 head. Unusually, the estates in Mozambique have to contend with unsettled local circumstances, and the Board offers its warm appreciation to those who continue to operate and produce with the knowledge of real physical risk. The Company employs over 10,000 field workers in Mozambique, and a uniformed and armed defence unit of 1,400 men. Peace is imminent in Mozambique and we will all be thankful to stand down the men who enabled the Company to continue its farming business and let them return to their normal work.

Across the world the Gulf war cut back both business and holiday travel and our hotels suffered a severe drop in occupancy during the year under review. In recent months the recovery has been gradual. Overall, our hotels are in excellent physical condition, and with small exceptions freehold and wholly-owned. Outstanding among them is the Acapulco Princess, which has no world competitor in size and quality. The new motorway from Mexico City is rapidly being completed and will give this remarkable hotel immeasurably better access from the capital.

In central London, £60 million has been invested in adding a modern complex of conference halls and two hundred new rooms to the Metropole Hotel. A third phase has received planning permission for an extension which would make the Metropole London's largest hotel in the under-supplied middle market, but the Board is not satisfied that this is the best time to go ahead.

The sale of Lonrho's fifty per cent. share in the German freight company Kühne & Nagel was announced on 23 January 1992. Mr. Klaus Kühne has been a wonderful partner since Lonrho originally invested



Rock boring equipment - Kasee platinum mine.

# Lonrho's balance sheet is strong

## Cash balances exceed £280 million

R W Rowland, Chief Executive

The following text is taken from the Review of Operations for the year ended 30 September, 1991:

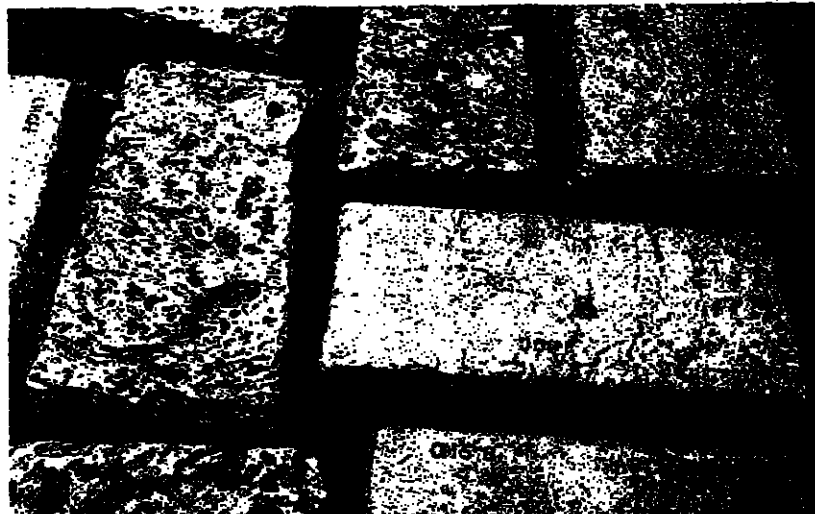
### MINING & REFINING

The Group's three platinum mines have achieved a 29 per cent. improvement in production to 625,000 ounces of platinum group metals. Major extensions to the smelting complex, base metal refinery and precious metal refinery have been or are being completed, and concentrates produced by the newly acquired Kasee mine are now being treated at Western

Total gold production from Ashanti will increase to one million ounces a year by 1995/96. Gold production in Zimbabwe increased by over 4,000 ounces to exceed 164,000 ounces. Coal sales continued to increase reaching a new record of 5.3 million tonnes.

### AGRICULTURE

Lonrho is the largest commercial food producer in Africa with sugar production being the major source of profits. In spite of reduced production in Swaziland and Mauritius due to



Gold bullion bars - Ashanti gold mine, Ghana.

### 1991 AT A GLANCE

	1991	1990
Turnover	£4,846m	£5,476m
Profit before tax	£207m	£273m
Profit attributable to shareholders	£92m	£148m
Earnings per share	14.2p	23.6p
Dividends per share	13.0p	15.7p
Cash balances	£283m	£355m

Turnover includes the Group's share of turnover of associates amounting to £1,848m (1990-£2,330m). A final dividend of 5p per share for the year to 30 September, 1991, will be paid on 6 April, 1992.

The eighty-third Annual General Meeting of Lonrho Plc will be held at The Barbican Hall, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London, EC2 on Thursday, 26 March, 1992 at 11.30 a.m.



New extension to the London Metropole Hotel, opened in October 1991.

Platinum. The shaft sinking programme at Kasee mine is nearing completion from which higher grade ore can be accessed.

Production from Western Platinum's new high capacity No 4 shaft has started and that mine's milling facilities will shortly be increased by a further one million tonnes of ore a year.

Eastern Platinum completed the extensions to its concentrator during the year, doubling its milling capacity to 2 million tonnes a year. Between the three mines, the Group will shortly be able to mill at a rate of 3 million tonnes of ore a year. Even at this rate, reserves are sufficient for a hundred years.

The Ashanti Goldfields Corporation (Ghana) achieved record production, revenue and profit. Gold output increased by 42 per cent. to 569,452 ounces compared with 400,757 ounces in 1990. The new Samsu Mine contributed over 169,000 ounces of the total declared gold production.

adverse climatic conditions, attributable sugar profits reached a record level due to the exceptional performance of our Malawi estates. Other contributory factors are the increased production of refined sugar in Swaziland and Mauritius and the expansion of the potato alcohol operation in South Africa.



Iveco trucks distributed by Lonrho in Angola.

In Kenya, Farmers Choice expanded its meat production facilities with the opening of a new factory in January. This expansion has resulted in exports of meat products to neighbouring countries in East Africa and the United Arab Emirates.

Tea, coffee and other major agricultural operations in Malawi had a poor year. LOMACO, the Group's cotton producer in Mozambique, was affected by persistent power cuts which, together with a severe drought, resulted in yields declining. In the first seven 7,000 tonnes cotton crop was harvested from the Montepuez area in Cabo Delgado Province and farmers supplied an additional 4,000 tonnes.

LOMACO produced over 55 per cent. of Mozambique's total cotton crop and continues to be a major employer in the country. Very poor rains throughout Zimbabwe injured most of the agricultural operations. However, record production of waste extract was achieved.

Kalengwa Estates in Zambia had a disappointing year, although soya beans, wheat, onions, potatoes and tobacco have earned good profits.

### HOTELS

The Metropole Hotel Group was affected by the Gulf war and the United Kingdom recession. The Group's prime area of business, conferences, continued to hold up well despite the recession and total conference revenue increased compared to the previous year.

The first major extension to the London Metropole was completed adding 195 bedrooms and suites, major conference facilities and new high quality public areas. The new facilities make the hotel one of the top conference hotels in London.

The past year has been difficult for Princess Hotels. During the period leading up to the Gulf war, the level of bookings dropped dramatically. Cost savings will ensure that the Princess will be in a better position as the US economy moves out of recession.

In Kenya, guest numbers were only slightly down on the previous year. Both the Aberdare Country Club and the Mount Kenya Safari Club are now firmly established as venues for both the international and Kenyan conference business, as well as their regular tourist trade.

The new hotel in Accra, Ghana, the Labadi Beach Hotel opened in August.

The first year of operation of the Hotel Cardoso in Mozambique was highly successful, with occupancy rates averaging over 85 per cent.

Refurbished locomotives destined for Turkey - Krupp Lonrho.

### MOTORS

One of the most visible signs of the recession in the British economy has been a steep decline in new vehicle sales. Under these circumstances the performance of the Volkswagen and Audi importing business held up well as a result of tight control, maintained market share and improved parts sales.

New models from Audi, the new Volkswagen van range and the arrival of the all new Golf in the Spring of 1992, coupled with the prospect of some improvement in the market have created an excellent outlook for this business.

In the Datsun-Forster Group measures have been taken to streamline operations to enable the Group to improve profitability and take advantage of a turn-around in the economy.

In Kenya the strength of the Mitsubishi, Toyota, Fiat and Hino franchises and the other market leaders, Massey Ferguson and Yanmar, ensured that the Motor Mart Group continued to be the leading company in the motor sector.

In Zambia the high demand for spare parts for Toyota, Land Rover and Volkswagen resulted in good profitability for these franchises.

In Angola the Group has recently acquired the Mercedes-Benz and Fiat franchises and has formed a new partnership with Toyota.

### PRINTING & PUBLISHING

Excellent results were once again achieved at George Outram & Company, publishers of The Glasgow Herald, Evening Times and Scottish Farmer. In common with all media, advertising revenue fell sharply, however, this was offset by strong performances in other categories and a significant reduction in operating costs. Scottish & Universal Newspapers, publishers of one daily and twenty-five weekly titles, enjoyed another new record year.

Results for The Observer have improved, and a small increase was achieved in circulation. Appreciable savings were made in overheads which more than compensated for the downturn in advertising revenue.

Harrison & Sons, the high security printer and largest printer of stamps for the British Post Office, is now firmly established as a currency printer. The company has secured an order for printing Polish passports worth £14 million and the volume of travellers cheques printed has increased significantly.

### OIL & GAS

The results of Hondo Oil & Gas Company were significantly affected by the volatile market reactions to the Gulf war and there was also a continuing trend of declining natural gas prices.

The company's exploration efforts were focused largely on the Permian Basin of Texas and on Magdalena Valley in Colombia, and its primary drilling focus for the forthcoming year will again be the Permian Basin. The company has entered into an agreement with Neste Oy,

Development well for oil and gas in the Middle Magdalena Valley, Colombia, South America - Hondo Oil & Gas.

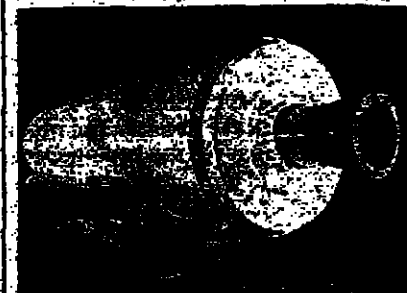
the Finnish National Oil Company, to participate in the company's drilling programme for the year ahead.

Hondo is now focusing on oil and gas exploration and production. As a result, the company has announced its intention to raise operating the Fletcher Refinery and certain related assets.

### ENGINEERING

W. Dähler reported increased profits from the production of buses and trucks in Zimbabwe. Zambesi Coachworks produced a record number of buses, van bodies, tankers and trailers and reported significantly increased profits.

Petrolim Line, the 50 per cent. held joint venture with the Zimbabwe Government, was granted approval to construct and operate an oil distribution pipeline from Petrus to Harare.



Mill shell constructed for ICI by Newell Duffield, Mauritius.

Despite price resistance and intense competition Vintres paints in Zambia recorded excellent performance in 1991.

In the Finslow Group Finslow Metal Products, Shear Pidge and Charles Roberts increased their share of their markets.

John Holt's boat building factory in Nigeria sold 430 boats and 3,106 Yamaha outboard engines this year.

In South Africa Tullis Laundry and Engineering Supplies, the leading manufacturer of laundry and dry cleaning equipment, had an outstanding year.

### TEXTILES

It has been a better year for Lonrho Textiles with sales and margins improved in both the retail and manufacturing divisions.

The David Whitehead Group experienced difficult trading conditions in the United Kingdom. Strong contributions were made by the women's fabric, retailing, purchasing and contracting for overseas mills activities.



David Whitehead, Malawi.

David Whitehead in Malawi suffered following the removal of import controls. Large quantities of textiles were imported from the Far East which have put pressure on its volumes and prices. These indiscriminate imports have, fortunately, now been stopped.

David Whitehead in Zimbabwe sold over 11,000 tonnes of yarn, 274 million metres of cloth and 3.6 million pairs of socks in a record breaking year for the company.

Cotton production in the Mambwa area of Zambia exceeded expectations.

### INTERNATIONAL TRADE & GENERAL

Krupp Lonrho has established several operations in Germany's new federal states and a joint venture company in Belorussia. Krupp Lonrho's steel export division supplied more than 1.6 million tonnes of steel to 65 countries.

In addition to the Group's joint venture, Loba-Lonrho, Lonrho has now opened an office in Moscow and is actively pursuing business throughout the Republics.

Lloyds broker F. E. Wright reported a substantial growth in profits in spite of fierce competition in a relatively soft market.



The twin 285,000 cu.ft. "Blue Ice" - the first of three refrigerated vessels commissioned by Krupp Lonrho.

Notwithstanding the severe recession in the United Kingdom construction industry Bernard Stanley & Sons improved operating profits in the year. Since the year and Lonrho has acquired Turfiff Construction which extends the Group's contracting activities to the Midlands and the North of England.

National Airways Corporation in South Africa continues to dominate the light aircraft market. Matrix Projects have become a strong force in the development and construction of large regional shopping centres in South Africa.

The text is taken from the Chief Executive's Statement and Review of Operations contained in the Report and Accounts for the year ended 30 September, 1991 which will be published in late February. Copies will be available from the Secretary, Lonrho Plc, Cheapside House, 138 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6BL.

# LONRHO

Lonrho Plc, Cheapside House, 138 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6BL



# Portfolio

PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card, check your share price movements on this page. Add them to the daily dividend and check the total against the dividend figure. If it matches, you have your dividend or a share of the daily price money. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Gamblers appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Share	Dividend	Dividend
1	Yorkshire W. Water	100	1.00	1.00
2	Wood John D. Paper	100	1.00	1.00
3	Whitson Brown. Building	100	1.00	1.00
4	Henric (Philly) Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
5	Whitson Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
6	Tomlinson Textiles	100	1.00	1.00
7	Tranchem TV Leisure	100	1.00	1.00
8	Stanley Leisure	100	1.00	1.00
9	SWR Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
10	LWTF Co. Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
11	Alcon Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
12	Spicer (W) Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
13	Pencon Newspaper	100	1.00	1.00
14	Obba Mew Share	100	1.00	1.00
15	Macro Electrical	100	1.00	1.00
16	Paton Electrical	100	1.00	1.00
17	Cancon St. Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
18	WPP Paper/Print	100	1.00	1.00
19	Handman Share/Lit	100	1.00	1.00
20	Halsford D. Chem/Pha	100	1.00	1.00
21	South West Water	100	1.00	1.00
22	Warr O'Connell Paper/Print	100	1.00	1.00
23	Br Alway Transport	100	1.00	1.00
24	Ocean Group Transport	100	1.00	1.00
25	Trade Packer Building	100	1.00	1.00
26	Seven Tiers Water	100	1.00	1.00
27	Smithline Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
28	Procon Gp Building	100	1.00	1.00
29	Amco Building	100	1.00	1.00
30	Land Sec Property	100	1.00	1.00
31	Edison Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
32	Br Land Property	100	1.00	1.00
33	Thames Water Water	100	1.00	1.00
34	Paterson Chemical	100	1.00	1.00
35	Thames Water Water	100	1.00	1.00
36	MM St. Ind. Ind. Co.	100	1.00	1.00
37	FTI Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
38	P & O DH Transport	100	1.00	1.00
39	Barnham Cam. Co. Co.	100	1.00	1.00
40	Amco Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
41	Harding Math Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
42	Widals Water Water	100	1.00	1.00
43	Alcon Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
44	Map Transport	100	1.00	1.00

© Times Newspapers Ltd. Total

Please take into account any minor signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily cash for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in tomorrow's newspaper.

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN

The £6,000 Portfolio Platinum prize was won yesterday by Mrs June M. Smith, of Perth.

1991/92 High Low Company Price % Chg % YTD % P/E

## BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

No.	Company	Share	Dividend	Dividend
1	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
2	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
3	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
4	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
5	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
6	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
7	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
8	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
9	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
10	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00

## BREWERIES

No.	Company	Share	Dividend	Dividend
1	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
2	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
3	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
4	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
5	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
6	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
7	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
8	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
9	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
10	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00

## BUILDING, ROADS

No.	Company	Share	Dividend	Dividend
1	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
2	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
3	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
4	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
5	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
6	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
7	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
8	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
9	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
10	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00

## Early gains halved

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began January 13. Dealings end today. Settlement day February 3. Forward bargains are priced on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is re-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

1991/92 High Low Company Price % Chg % YTD % P/E

## ELECTRICITY

No.	Company	Share	Dividend	Dividend
1	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
2	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
3	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
4	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
5	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
6	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
7	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
8	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
9	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
10	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00

## FINANCE, LAND

No.	Company	Share	Dividend	Dividend
1	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
2	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
3	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
4	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
5	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
6	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
7	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
8	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
9	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
10	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00

## FINANCIAL TRUSTS

No.	Company	Share	Dividend	Dividend
1	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
2	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
3	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
4	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
5	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
6	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
7	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
8	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
9	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
10	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00

## FOODS

No.	Company	Share	Dividend	Dividend
1	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
2	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
3	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
4	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
5	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
6	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
7	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
8	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
9	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
10	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00

## HOTELS, CATERERS

No.	Company	Share	Dividend	Dividend
1	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
2	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
3	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
4	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
5	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
6	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
7	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
8	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
9	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
10	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00

## INDUSTRIALS

No.	Company	Share	Dividend	Dividend
1	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
2	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
3	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
4	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
5	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
6	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
7	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
8	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
9	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
10	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00

## BRITISH FUNDS

No.	Company	Share	Dividend	Dividend
1	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
2	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
3	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
4	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
5	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
6	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
7	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
8	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
9	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
10	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00

## SHORTS (under 5 years)

No.	Company	Share	Dividend	Dividend
1	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
2	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
3	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
4	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
5	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
6	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
7	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
8	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
9	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
10	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00

## LONGS (over 15 years)

No.	Company	Share	Dividend	Dividend
1	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
2	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
3	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
4	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
5	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
6	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
7	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
8	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
9	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00
10	Alcon	100	1.00	1.00

## Portfolio

PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card, check your share price movements on this page. Add them to the daily dividend and check the total against the dividend figure. If it matches, you have your dividend or a share of the daily price money. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Gamblers appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Share	Dividend	Dividend
1	Yorkshire W. Water	100	1.00	1.00
2	Wood John D. Paper	100	1.00	1.00
3	Whitson Brown. Building	100	1.00	1.00
4	Henric (Philly) Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
5	Whitson Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
6	Tomlinson Textiles	100	1.00	1.00
7	Tranchem TV Leisure	100	1.00	1.00
8	Stanley Leisure	100	1.00	1.00
9	SWR Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
10	LWTF Co. Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
11	Alcon Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
12	Spicer (W) Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
13	Pencon Newspaper	100	1.00	1.00
14	Obba Mew Share	100	1.00	1.00
15	Macro Electrical	100	1.00	1.00
16	Paton Electrical	100	1.00	1.00
17	Cancon St. Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
18	WPP Paper/Print	100	1.00	1.00
19	Handman Share/Lit	100	1.00	1.00
20	Halsford D. Chem/Pha	100	1.00	1.00
21	South West Water	100	1.00	1.00
22	Warr O'Connell Paper/Print	100	1.00	1.00
23	Br Alway Transport	100	1.00	1.00
24	Ocean Group Transport	100	1.00	1.00
25	Trade Packer Building	100	1.00	1.00
26	Seven Tiers Water	100	1.00	1.00
27	Smithline Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
28	Procon Gp Building	100	1.00	1.00
29	Amco Building	100	1.00	1.00
30	Land Sec Property	100	1.00	1.00
31	Edison Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
32	Br Land Property	100	1.00	1.00
33	Thames Water Water	100	1.00	1.00
34	Paterson Chemical	100	1.00	1.00
35	Thames Water Water	100	1.00	1.00
36	MM St. Ind. Ind. Co.	100	1.00	1.00
37	FTI Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
38	P & O DH Transport	100	1.00	1.00
39	Barnham Cam. Co. Co.	100	1.00	1.00
40	Amco Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
41	Harding Math Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
42	Widals Water Water	100	1.00	1.00
43	Alcon Industrial	100	1.00	1.00
44	Map Transport	100	1.00	1.00

© Times Newspapers Ltd. Total

Please take into account any minor signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily cash for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in tomorrow's newspaper.

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN

The £6,000 Portfolio Platinum prize was won yesterday by Mrs June M. Smith, of Perth.

1991/92 High Low Company Price % Chg % YTD % P/E

## BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP



**THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE**

26	6.03
23	2.5
17	2.5
24	4.0
25	4.0
18	...
17	...

10	2.4
11	2.0
12	1.4
13	3.4
14	1.9
15	...
16	7.4
17	0.6
18	2.1
19	6.4
20	6.4
21	4.7

71	.
80	6.7
90	6.1
70	1.4
50	
80	1.7
33	10.3
02	10.1
	7.1

60	3.1
94	0.6
50	1.0
15	6.2
22	1.5
21	5.8

03	0.9
01	4.2
04	6.0
02	4.0
12	1.0
RE	
15	0.0
47	0.0
02	3.2

02	1.2
23	1.2
23	1.2
10	5.7
07	5.7
02	3.5
05	3.5
59	5.8
14	5.8
05	0.6
95	0.6
84	1.5
88	1.5
04	3.4

07	8.6
05	0.8
06	0.8
23	2.2
28	2.1
79	0.5
110	1.7
30	4.8

0.00	0.00
0.07	4.00
0.39	2.70
0.40	2.10
0.17	1.10
0.26	1.30
0.00	6.00
0.40	..
0.07	9.00
0.21	3.00
0.20	2.00
0.11	4.20

80	-0.1
86	0.1
93	10.0
93	10.0
20	..
04	..
56	0.5
56	0.5
78	..
78	..
77	..

31	..
31	..
43	0.1
44	0.2
31	5.0
37	5.0
82	- 0.2
88	0.2
05	1.0
06	1.0
STS	
E7.	

0.50	5.
0.02	0.
0.24	0.
0.29	0.
0.03	7.
0.01	1.

1.01	10
2.10	10
1.05	10
1.07	10
1.00	10
1.29	10

103 3.

0.6

pr-1 ch  
4-1/2 pr  
290 ch  
106 ch  
6-8 ch  
1-17 pr  
2-75 pr  
4-1/2 ch  
4-4 pr  
5-5 ch  
3-23 pr  
2-23 pr

**E6**

1.5930  
7.7580  
1.6730  
-1198  
124.00  
2.6768  
1.7925  
6.2558  
137.19  
1.6337  
100.42

12

104  
104  
7-4-32  
104

CaR  
4-34  
9-84  
10-9

51-41  
Co)  
59.15  
98.50  
48.00  
47.00

100











# AquaContact gives more grip in the wet by

## channelling excess water down here

The grooved central channel that makes AquaContact unique, allows it to disperse water quicker than any conventional high performance tyre.

It works by twin treads feeding excess water to the 'aqua channel', leaving the rest of the tyre to get to grips with the road.

This patented German design gives a 10% greater resistance to straight line aqua-planing and more than 20% greater resistance to aqua-planing on cornering.

impressed the magazine 'World Sports Cars' who say, "the new Continental AquaContact is truly the most innovative and technically convincing tyre design to come to the market since the advent of the steel belted radial."

If you're convinced, telephone 081 547 0105 for a brochure on AquaContact and the Continental range.

**Continental**  
German engineering















Redknapp's side faces big challenge in FA Cup

# Twin peaks moves Bournemouth on to a flight of fancy

By CLIVE WHITE

IT CANNOT have taken much to get Bournemouth's charter, aircraft off the ground late on Wednesday night, as those on board were already on cloud nine after their dramatic FA Cup third round win on penalties against Newcastle United at St James Park. Lifting them again by tomorrow, however, would take the invention of even Wilbur and Orville Wright.

Harry Redknapp is not complaining, though. It is part of a football manager's lot these days to try to get his team to peak twice in a week, even if Redknapp would have preferred a couple more days at ground level before asking the third division side to raise their game again to combat Ipswich Town in a fourth round tie at Portman Road.

It was after their last visit to Newcastle 23 months ago that Bournemouth began a desperate slide towards the third division as a result of some appalling injuries which still plague them. One win in their last 16 games inevitably led to relegation.

Such a fate may, in the mind of Bill Shankly, have been more serious than life and death, though I doubt whether even someone as football-daff as Redknapp would agree with that, not after cheating death in a car crash in Italy in 1990 which cost the life of his close friend, Brian Tiler, and three Italians.

Four months after fracturing his skull, breaking a leg and several ribs, Redknapp returned to work, against the advice of his doctors. He made a good recovery though he has lost his sense of smell and taste, probably for ever.

"You could put the worst possible smell under his nose and he wouldn't notice it," Sandra, his wife, said. "He's still football crazy, though. After flying back from Newcastle, he sat up until 3.30am watching the video of the game and was still back at work at 10am in the morning."

The penalty shoot-out must have been a sight easier for Redknapp to watch the second time around, even though he said that he was confident that his five penalty takers would not let him down. "They're all good strikers of the ball," he said. "Mind you after the first five we could have been struggling."

The outstanding individual performance unquestionably came from Paul Wood, whose brave, aggressive running would not have been there to inspire Bournemouth but for the generosity of a supporter every bit as chippy as Redknapp. Wood had been on loan from Sheffield United for four months when Bournemouth were informed that £40,000 was required to make the move permanent.

For a club £2.5 million in the red and losing £5,000 a week, United might just have well asked for £400,000. "I

thought we would have to let Paul go back to Sheffield, but then Ken Gardiner, one of our greatest fans, stepped in and paid the fee out of his own pocket."

Not even money can buy Wood his place at Portman Road. Sadly for Bournemouth, he is suspended. They could have done with him against a team that played "the best football," seen by Tony Pulis, the Bournemouth coach, for a long time. It does not surprise Redknapp. "John Lyall did a tremendous job at West Ham over the years and I knew he would do so at Ipswich," he said.

The two were together at Upton Park where their careers overlapped as players. Just as Lyall committed himself to West Ham, so Redknapp has done likewise at Bournemouth where he has been manager for nine years. Coincidentally, West Ham wanted Redknapp to succeed Lyall in 1989, but the move did not materialise and Lou Macari took the job. Redknapp would be only too happy to displace Lyall on this occasion.

Osvaldo Ardiles, the Newcastle manager, reacted to Wednesday's defeat by agreeing a fee of £325,000 with Southampton yesterday for Jon Gittens. Ardiles moved for Gittens, aged 28, who was under his care at Swindon Town, to reinforce a defence which has conceded 54 goals, more than any other team in the League.

Having achieved a clean sweep of the medals in one event the previous evening, the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) is set fair to accomplish another in the European skating championships tonight.

This time, the target is the ice dance event, where Marina Klimova and Sergei Ponomarenko, the world champions until deposed by the now injured Isabelle and Paul Duchesnay, lead the way after the original dance yesterday. They are followed by two other Muscovite couples.

The mandatory rhythm this year is the polka, which is not an ideal medium for expression on ice, as most competitors found. However, both yesterday's winners and their runners-up, Maia Usova and Alexander Zhulin, found means, with their brilliant technique of avoiding the obvious clichés.

Two judges placed Usova and Zhulin first but there were grounds also for justifying the other seven judges. The pairs on Wednesday evening produced a final of error-strewn, unfulfilled potential. Whereas Moscow ruled yesterday's rout, it had been St Petersburg's turn the night before to fill the podium.

The world pairs champions, Natalya Mishukienok and Artur Dmitriev, successfully defended their European title, for the fourth time overhauling their stable companions, Yelena Bechke and Denis Petrov, after conceding defeat in the original programme.

But this was not the Mishukienok and Dmitriev of last year. Both skaters, but particularly Dmitriev, have suffered from a flu-like virus and Mishukienok has acquired two or three unwelcome kilos.

They owed their success yesterday to marks for artistic impression, which may have in turn owed something to the beguiling accompaniment of Liszt's *Liebestraum*.

Mishukienok made two errors and, in general, the second marks seemed too high, the 6.0 from the Italian judge inexplicably so.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.



Perfectly poised: Klimova, front, and Ponomarenko, the former world champions, perform their original programme in the ice dance yesterday

## Russians lead a merry dance

FROM JOHN HENNESSY IN LAUSANNE

Having achieved a clean sweep of the medals in one event the previous evening, the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) is set fair to accomplish another in the European skating championships tonight.

This time, the target is the ice dance event, where Marina Klimova and Sergei Ponomarenko, the world champions until deposed by the now injured Isabelle and Paul Duchesnay, lead the way after the original dance yesterday. They are followed by two other Muscovite couples.

The mandatory rhythm this year is the polka, which is not an ideal medium for expression on ice, as most competitors found. However, both yesterday's winners and their runners-up, Maia Usova and Alexander Zhulin, found means, with their brilliant technique of avoiding the obvious clichés.

Two judges placed Usova and Zhulin first but there were grounds also for justifying the other seven judges. The pairs on Wednesday evening produced a final of error-strewn, unfulfilled potential. Whereas Moscow ruled yesterday's rout, it had been St Petersburg's turn the night before to fill the podium.

The world pairs champions, Natalya Mishukienok and Artur Dmitriev, successfully defended their European title, for the fourth time overhauling their stable companions, Yelena Bechke and Denis Petrov, after conceding defeat in the original programme.

But this was not the Mishukienok and Dmitriev of last year. Both skaters, but particularly Dmitriev, have suffered from a flu-like virus and Mishukienok has acquired two or three unwelcome kilos.

They owed their success yesterday to marks for artistic impression, which may have in turn owed something to the beguiling accompaniment of Liszt's *Liebestraum*.

Mishukienok made two errors and, in general, the second marks seemed too high, the 6.0 from the Italian judge inexplicably so.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

FROM JOHN HENNESSY IN LAUSANNE

They owed their success yesterday to marks for artistic impression, which may have in turn owed something to the beguiling accompaniment of Liszt's *Liebestraum*.

Mishukienok made two errors and, in general, the second marks seemed too high, the 6.0 from the Italian judge inexplicably so.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plavov (CIS), 3.0, 4, S. Gaiagel and P. Cammerling (CIS), 4.2, 5, K. Eng and A. Tonn (CIS), 4.5, 6, S. Rahimov and P. Kozlov (Fin), 5.0, British: 17, M. Bruce and A. Place, 16.2.

A veil is best drawn over the British performance. Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor declined from eighth place to ninth and their successors as British champions, Kathryn Pritchard and Jason Briggs, remained anchored in thirteenth and last.

RESULTS: Pairs: First, 1, Mishukienok and Dmitriev (CIS), 2, Bechke and Petrov (CIS), 2.5, 3, E. Bechke and V. Nasonov (CIS), 5.0, British: Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor, 10.0, 13, K. Pritchard and J. Briggs, 10.5, ice dance: (after original dance): 1, M. Klimova and S. Ponomarenko (CIS), 10.0, 2, M. Usova and A. Zhulin (CIS), 2.0, 3, O. Gritshuk and E. Plav



